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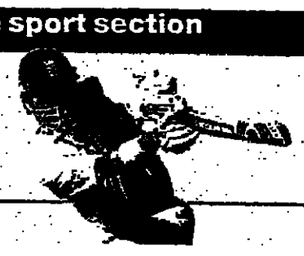
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NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Inside our new 12-page sport section

Sport



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Victory dashes: Stewart orders England gamble, Schumacher takes Canadian GP

Polly Toynbee

Why we should pay more taxes

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Power firms back coal

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JONATHAN STEELE is the first journalist in western Kosovo, where a merciless Serb offensive is under way

Beyond the view of TV cameras, a killer stalks



Emotions run high as a family is reunited in Albania after a four-day journey on foot across the mountains from Kosovo PHOTOGRAPH: HECTOR PUSTINA

A SERIAL killer is on the loose in the western Kosovo region of Yugoslavia. He strikes daily in village after village, taking a handful of victims at random, spreading panic among ordinary farming families and turning thousands of ethnic Albanians into refugees.

Those who live nearest the border with Albania have struggled up mountain paths to escape to safety. But many more are moving desperately within the killing zone, swaying on horse-drawn carts, crammed into tractor trailers, or walking in sweltering heat. They pass with vacant, wide-eyed stares.

For every one who gets to Albania, another three or four remain homeless in Kosovo, unseen by the foreign media because of a deliberate information blockade by the Serb authorities. In the village of Propaqan I found 300 people huddled in a barn and overflowing house.

The hamlet of Krushevc, normally home to 900 people, now has a population of 7,000. Dubovik, a village of 1,200, finds itself feeding an extra 2,000. Kosovo's second city, Peje (Pec in Serbian), has received at least 20,000 new people in two weeks.

The killer's methods fit a pattern.

"It started at about 9am. We suddenly heard shooting from a small hill nearby, not just bullets but terrible big guns," said Have Kasumaj, a woman in her 40s from the village of Lloqan.

"I heard the cows trying to get back to the compound and I ran out to open the doors to let them in. Then I felt something hit my shoulder and when I turned round another bullet grazed my back. My husband went into the woods with another man. They were both shot."



She stumbled back to the house and slept for the next three nights under the stairs. "I kept hoping my husband was only wounded and would come home, but he didn't," she said. On the fourth night her brother-in-law arrived and took her to a safer village.

As we talked on Saturday morning, two pillars of smoke rose into the sky about two miles away. "Prilep is burning," said Haxhi, a primary school teacher, with the flat voice of a man who could not quite believe the reality of what we could all see. He had left Prilep the previous night.

The village had been bombarded with mortars and ground-to-ground Katyusha rockets for four days, he said. His wife and children hid in the cellar. He, his brother and their male neighbours were fighters in Prilep's defence team. They tried to guard the village, going home to check on their families when they could.

On Friday the shelling became more intense, accompanied by fire from aircraft. "I went back to the house. My family had gone. I have to assume they are refugees somewhere. We also ran. I saw people falling. Some must be dead. I have no idea how many."

The epicentre of the two-week killing spree is Decan, a town which with its neighbouring villages used to be home to 60,000 people, including some 570 Serbs. It sits along the main north-south road from Peje to Djakova, which runs parallel to the Albanian and Montenegrin borders.

Four weeks ago, when the Serb police still allowed foreign journalists through their checkpoints, Decan was already a hive of military activity. I saw convoys of lorries carrying special forces in black masks or with blackened faces travelling up and down the road from a base outside Peje. New sandbags were being installed at the checkpoints. Armoured personnel carriers mounted with anti-aircraft guns were standing at the ready.

On the west side of Decan, in the foothills of the mountain range over which a minority of refugees have fled to Albania, a new camp was under construction. Now it is in unremitting action. From a distance of two miles, Albanian fighters in the village of Upper Strelic offered their binoculars so I could watch the new Serb gun positions commanding the plain below. They enjoy a perfect killing ground.

While the Serbian aim is ethnic cleansing provoked by wanton murder, it is not succeeding fully, at least not yet.

"People here are unique in one thing. They won't leave," said a local Albanian commander who served with the Bosnian VI Corps in the defence of Sarajevo. "There is big solidarity here. People go to another village, and then come back. Most of those who have gone to Albania are women and children."

Signs of developing resistance can be seen everywhere. Groups of farmers are digging trenches and primitive underground bunkers at crossroads. Machine-guns are being erected behind piles of stones. Openings for marksmen are being made in concrete walls.

They know the Serbs want to come into the villages after they have been "softened up" by artillery fire and the people have fled. They know the Serbs want to loot the houses and set the buildings on fire. Then it will be hard for people ever to return. Eye-

turn to page 2, column 1

Blair: We're ready to use force

Lucy Ward
Political Correspondent

TONY Blair yesterday sought support from Boris Yeltsin and Bill Clinton for an international effort to calm escalating violence in Kosovo, after confirming British troops are on standby.

The Prime Minister, who has warned the Cabinet that Britain is prepared to use force to stem "butchery" against ethnic Albanian civilians, secured agreement from Mr Yeltsin to use his influence with the Yugoslav President, Slobodan Milosevic, to try to halt the violence.

In a second half-hour telephone conversation, Mr Blair and Mr Clinton agreed on the need to work together, through the United Nations and other forums, to send a clear message to Mr Milosevic that the Yugoslav forces' actions were unacceptable.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday made clear the European Union is ready to intervene to prevent ethic cleansing in Kosovo with a warning that the Yugoslav president had "crossed the threshold" by using military force against civilians.

The toughest statement on the conflict yet from Mr Cook — who will today chair a meeting of the EU's general affairs council in Luxembourg at which the crisis will top the agenda — follows Mr Blair's warning at Thursday's cabinet meeting that intelligence reports indicated "a level of butchery that risks escalating to another Bosnia. The only question that matters is whether you are prepared to use force, and we have to be. It's better to decide when and how to intervene than be dragged in".

Mr Cook told a conference at the London School of Economics: "The use of ... the army against civilian centres of population is unacceptable within the modern Europe."

Police join French strikers as Britain refuels

Paul Webster in Paris

A PROTEST by French police is set to weaken security at the football World Cup, which begins this week against a background of air and rail chaos.

A work-to-rule by Paris detectives means that visiting fans will be at risk from criminals when an expected 1 million people gather in the capital for a giant parade on the eve of the opening Brazil v Scotland match.

Appeals by the prime minister, Lionel Jospin, to Air France pilots to give up their industrial action failed at the weekend, making it certain that disruption to flights will coincide with a rail strike on Wednesday. But the pilots told management yesterday that they would be prepared to fly aircraft to pick up soccer fans who have been stranded abroad.

However, transport problems could be far less serious for foreign fans than the absence of plain-clothes officers.

Paris police officials confirmed yesterday that a three-month protest by the Police Judiciare, the equivalent of the CID, had already undermined security in the capital in the run-up to the World Cup and had caused the scaling down of an operation to arrest suspected Algerian terrorists to prevent bomb attacks during the competition.

Because detectives at the Quai des Orfevres, France's Scotland Yard, are refusing to work overtime in a dispute over bonuses, the flying squad and the drugs and prostitution units have not made a significant arrest for several weeks. The number of suspects taken into custody has dropped by about two-thirds.

Detectives confirmed that criminals, including violent gangs, felt safe to operate openly at certain times of the day because the crime squad could not keep them under surveillance. This was particularly noticeable for drug dealers whose presence has become increasingly visible in the city centre.

But one of the most immediate dangers for hundreds of thousands of foreigners is the temporary dissolution of a specialist anti-pickpocket squad and the abandoning of plans for a close watch on gangs of petty thieves expected to mingle with the crowd during tomorrow's parade on the Champs Elysées and the opening match at the Stade de France on Wednesday.

The protest is also making it difficult to deploy the elite Raid group of police sharpshooters who take a leading role in anti-terrorist work.

"Choices will have to be made between protecting visitors and high-level surveillance of criminal activity," said one senior policeman.

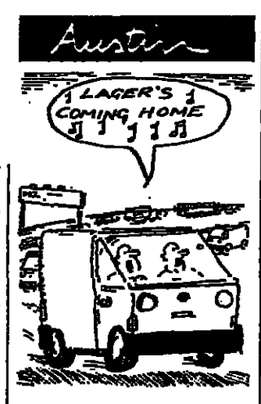
"The overtime ban means that there are just not enough men to go round and there has been a drop in efficiency."

Detectives earn up to £1,500 a month but are often expected to work round the clock and are forbidden to take time off in compensation.

"Police Judiciare officials have to work in a sort of feudal system," said Olivier Poli, secretary-general of the detectives' union, after scores of plain-clothes detectives on bicycles blocked rush-hour traffic as part of their protest. "If we're paid like junior civil servants then we'll work like them — eight hours maximum on duty."

Bootleg beer will slake thirst of millions watching TV

Stuart Millar and Jamie Wilson



THEY will come from as far afield as Manchester, Dundee and Truro, crossing the Channel in preparation for the four weeks over which football fans have been drooling for months.

Thousands of their fellow travellers continue on through France this week to follow England and Scotland, but this group will turn their laden vans around and head home to collect a tidy profit.

Bootleggers have become the most enterprising symbol of the alcohol boom which is set to fuel British appreciation of the most hyped World Cup to date. Figures published today by the Brewers and Licensed Retailers Association reveal a 32 per cent increase in the cross-Channel traffic in cheap beer as fans stock up for France 98. More than 10,000 vans made the crossing last month — the highest May figure since the introduction of the single market in 1993.

The Brewers and Licensed Retailers' Association, which compiled the data using undercover surveillance, does not normally release monthly figures on bootlegging, but decided to make an exception because of the scale of the trade in May.

"This is a staggering increase, with over 350 a day making the journey," said Mike Ripley, the association's spokesman. Most of it must be put down to the smugglers stocking up in preparation for the World Cup."

Customs and Excise estimates that up to 70 per cent of the 1.5 million pints coming in per day is sold illegally.

The figures are the latest evidence of the unprecedented boom in alcohol sales. Fans are expected to spend £150 million in pubs while watching games.

The figures would be even higher were it not for the van trade, which last year cost pubs an estimated £900 million in lost sales and the Government £300 million in lost duty.

Bootleggers are also travelling from farther afield. While London and the South-east remain the main market, there were sharp rises in vans from Manchester, Leeds and Portsmouth, with some from Bangor, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Truro.

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1 Seat of government (7)
2 Dreading detachment (7)
3 Priest taking no interest (5)
4 Summon (5)
5 Wine and spirit (5)
6 Animal (5)
7 Hard (5)
8 Hair (5)
16 Group (5)
17 Hungary (5)
18 Promising (5)
20 Jam (5)
21 Sharp (5)
25 Computer (5)

CROSSWORD SOLUTION



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Archer hits hurdle in race for mayor

Lucy Ward
Political Correspondent

LORD Archer's ambition of becoming the first elected mayor of London suffered a blow yesterday when his party leader conspicuously failed to defend him after a senior former Tory MP demanded an inquiry into allegations about his past.

In the latest chapter in the endlessly changing fortunes of the millionaire novelist, Sir Timothy Kitson, a former MP for Richmond — the Yorkshire seat now held by William Hague — has filed a formal complaint for the Tories' new ethics and integrity committee urging an inquiry into Lord Archer's fitness as a candidate.

Sir Timothy, a former whip and parliamentary private secretary to Sir Edward Heath during his period as prime minister, insisted yesterday that the Tory party must be "squeaky clean" to avoid embarrassments of the kind prompted by sleaze allegations against candidates such as Neil Hamilton.

His letter, which highlights allegations against Lord Archer including question-marks over the qualifications which won him an Oxford University place and his £2,000 gift to a prostitute he had never met, is bound to damage the peer's hopes of selection as Tory mayoral candidate.

Speculation will centre on how far the call for an inquiry reflects a growing unease among some Tories with Lord Archer's unashamed promotion of his candidacy. Mr Hague, who has remained strictly neutral on the choice of candidate, is known to have strong reservations over Lord Archer, and the Tories have sought — so far unsuccessfully — alternative candidates who are well enough known to defeat Lord Archer. The former Hong Kong governor Chris Patten, Michael Heseltine and John Major have all refused.

Sir Timothy insisted he had not spoken to Mr Hague, his constituency MP as well as a party colleague, about it.

Mr Hague, questioned over the letter on the BBC's Breakfast with Frost, yesterday offered no comment on Lord Archer himself, but underlined the power of the new ethics and integrity committee. The new Tory board of directors, which has the power to refer the complaint to the committee, would respond quickly to the letter, Mr Hague said. It was important not to prejudge the procedure.

The issue would be the first for the committee, whose membership has not yet been decided and which does not yet formally exist. It will have the power to veto candidates and even withdraw party membership.

Lord Archer was unavailable yesterday for comment. His wife Mary said he was attending the Madrid bookfair and was "rushing around" out of contact.

Sir Timothy cited London Evening Standard articles repeating claims about Lord Archer in a biography of him by the BBC journalist Michael Crick. Lord Archer had indicated he would "deal with" the claims, but had not done so. Lord Archer, he added, was also absent from a live television debate, sponsored by the Standard, between other potential candidates.

Sir Timothy added: "We can't be moving into some sort of campaign without being squeaky clean. This has got to be sorted, and that is what the committee is there to do."

Asked about Mr Hague's response to questioning, he said: "He could have said well, Kitson's probably got this all wrong, but he didn't. I think that's interesting."



Lord Archer . . . The peer's unashamed promotion of his candidacy for mayor of London has led to growing unease among Tories PHOTOGRAPH: SEAN SMITH

Brown set for capital spending bonanza

Charlotte Denny and Mark Atkinson

THE Chancellor, Gordon Brown, is set to confound critics of his firm grip on public spending by unleashing a wave of investment to renovate crumbling schools, hospitals and roads.

With Cabinet battles over public spending reaching a climax this month, the Treasury has disclosed that the Government still has scope to boost investment in health, education and run-down communities, while sticking to its tough overall rules.

In a paper published today, the Treasury hints that Mr Brown will adopt a twin-track approach to public finances — keeping a tight grip on departmental running costs, including wages, but approving certain investment projects.

While this promises to bring benefits over the long term, it is unlikely to satisfy demands from nurses, doctors and teachers for higher pay. Only last week, Rodney Bickerstaffe, general secretary of the public services union, Unison, said many were quitting, jeopardising Labour's manifesto pledges to reduce hospital waiting lists and cut class sizes.

The Chancellor has repeatedly committed the Government to sticking to the so-called Golden Rule for public finances which states that over the economic cycle, day-to-day running costs of the public sector must be funded from taxation rather than borrowing to prevent tomorrow's taxpayers being burdened with bills for today's services.

But the extra money for investment can be found without breaking this principle because spending on capital projects is excluded.

The Treasury paper says investment in schools, hospitals and roads has been neglected for 20 years. The implication is that any extra money released as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review, due to conclude next month, will be ploughed back into renewing the fabric of the public sector.

"We have underinvested dramatically," a Treasury spokesman said. "It has implications for the efficiency of the private sector because businesses depend on the public infrastructure."

The paper blames the old fiscal regime, under which no clear distinction was made between current and capital spending, for underinvestment. In future, each department will be expected to show the split between current and capital spending.

The message will be taken up today by Alistair Darling, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, in a speech to the MSF finance union's annual conference in Bournemouth and by Mr Brown in his Mansion House speech on Thursday.

Mr Darling will say: "Too many governments in the past have taken the axe to investment because it was the easy option. We can see that everywhere in schools, hospitals, railways and housing. The result has been chronic underinvestment in public services."

To prevent capital spending getting out of hand, Mr Brown has a second guiding principle. Over the economic cycle, the ratio of public debt to national output will be held at a "stable and prudent" level. Debt now stands at around 43 per cent of GDP, up from 27 per cent in 1990.

> 'Too many governments have taken the axe to investment. It was the easy option.'

The Treasury spokesman warned: "We are determined to bear down on the current level of debt." The Chancellor will explain what he means by "stable and prudent" in the forthcoming spending review.

The Treasury stressed last week that with big budget deficits to make up for earlier in the cycle, the Government would need to run current surpluses for the next few years to make up for past profligacy. The golden rule has not been met in any economic cycle since the early 1970s, and current spending has exceeded receipts by 1.5 per cent of GDP a year on average since 1985.

The only threat to fiscal discipline was the possibility of sharp slowdown in output. "If the economy fell off the cliff, you would have to rethink it," said the spokesman.

Public investment has fallen to low levels by historical and international standards, despite the fact that the public sector has shrunk.

Stranger than fiction . . . peer's chequered career

The tale of a novelist, a prostitute, £50 notes and a share scandal

THERE are several embarrassing discrepancies between Jeffrey Archer's account of his life and that revealed by Michael Crick in his debunking 1995 biography, *writes Luke Harding.*

THE EXAM RESULTS:

Archer left school with three O Levels. But when he arrived, aged 21, as a teacher at Dover College, a minor public school, he had *miraculously acquired a* degree from a US university.

On his admission to Oxford two years later for a one-year diploma in education, his qualifications had burgeoned further. He was accepted following a letter of recommendation from his old employer. The letter claimed Archer had three A Levels and had studied anatomy at the University of California. This was not true. Archer mysteriously stayed on at Oxford for two years after his Dip Ed had been completed.

THE BUSINESS CAREER:

Crick's book, Stranger Than Fiction, claims that in his early years Archer gave the impression of being much wealthier than he was. In 1974 his business world collapsed when he was massively defrauded. He decided to resign as an MP, and than exaggerated his impoverishment.

"I have now only £18 left in the world," he told a newspaper. In fact, he still had several valuable assets — including his south Kensington home. He also earned around £100,000 in 1973 and 1974 from his membership of Lloyds insurance syndicate.

THE PROSTITUTE:

Archer resigned as deputy chairman of the Tory party in 1986. His mistake was to pay £2,000 to a prostitute he had never met. Via an intermediary, the novelist gave Monica Coghlan an envelope full of £50 notes at Victoria Station, and told her to go abroad to avoid a scandal. Archer apologised for his "lack of judgment", but denied "any association of any kind with a prostitute".

The incident prompted a libel trial a year later when the Daily Star claimed that Archer had slept with Ms Coghlan. He was awarded £500,000. Rehabilitated, he was made a peer by John Major in 1992.

THE ANGLIA SHARES:

Archer was the subject of a Department of Trade and Industry investigation in 1994 after he bought shares in Anglia television, of which his wife was a non-executive director.

The day after Mary Archer attended a board meeting in which a takeover bid was secretly discussed, Archer instructed a stockbroker to buy £240,000 of shares. They were placed in the name of a Kurdish friend, Broosk Saib. When the takeover bid was announced publicly four days later the share price leapt by 180p. Archer then sold the shares, making an £80,000 profit for his friend.

The novelist dismissed allegations of insider trading and was cleared by Michael Heseltine, then President of the Board of Trade.



Monica Coghlan . . . Archer quit after paying her £2,000

Beyond the view of TV cameras, a killer stalks western Kosovo

continued from page 1

witnesses to such lootings can be found. But the Serbs usually shoot many of those who have not run off.

"The Serbs started shelling on May 25," said Adem Bushati, aged 66, a farmer from Lubeniq. "At lunchtime about 150 military vehicles and police arrived. A group of 15 attacked my house. I somehow got out and hid in the long grass for four hours. It was raining. I saw them going into the houses. They took a 67-year-old man and his four sons. They asked the father which one he wanted to spare. He asked for the youngest, and they released him. Then they stripped the others to their underwear, told then to run, and shot them in the back." Mr Bushati did not see the murder himself, but says he heard about it from a 15-year-old boy who also escaped.

The village of Krushevc was different. "The Serbs didn't get in here, because our forces didn't let them," a farmer said. His remark sounded more than a little bombastic since large parts of his home were wrecked. There were two gaping holes in one wall and the front bedroom had been blown away. Yugoslav army tanks had fired from a road 100 yards away on May 29, he said.

In spite of the damage, the ground floor had been lovingly cleared of debris. The carpets were swept and the sofa was ready once again for visitors — even though the front wall was gone.

In better days western Kosovo was a region of relatively wealthy farmers. Almost every family has sons or brothers in Germany, Austria or Switzerland who send back money. Battered Volkswagen estates and large Mercedes still ply the backroads.

In the 40 years of Enver Hoxha's Stalinist rule in Albania, the collective farm system partly undermined the ancient traditions of the Albanian family. In Kosovo, where Tito allowed private farming, it remains intact, with married brothers bringing up their children in their father's compound. Often there are three or four houses behind one set of walls.

This archaic network of extended families is proving to be western Kosovo's salvation as the tide of refugees flows through the country lanes. They know no one will be turned away. The Albanian leadership wants to turn this into policy. With all the roads to Peje blocked, I took a local train from Pristina on Friday morning. At a newly-organised safe-house in Peje an activist from the Council for Human Rights was sitting at a computer, preparing a communique to be distributed around the region by hand.

> 'The father asked them to spare his youngest son. Then they told the rest to run, and shot them in the back'

"Don't abandon your homes and property," it said. "Going somewhere else doesn't mean you'll be safe. Everywhere you go outside your home country you'll be someone's servant. We ask you to stay in your houses. Better days are coming."

This is not just armchair radicalism by people living in the relative safety of Peje. Every day a group of a dozen Peje citizens sets out along the backroads on foot or by cart with medicine for the refugees and the fighters. I travelled with one of them.

"We have 170 wounded," said a women in her 30s as the boxes of supplies were opened and the contents split among the carriers. This being war and with tensions high, along with the glucose infusions and serum there were cigarettes.

The 10-mile journey, which sometimes requires running while crouching to dodge Serb sniper fire at Decan, is the last part of the journey. "It starts in Montenegro," said a pharmacist. "For several days the Serbs have been checking all Albanian chemists to note their stocks. We now bring the stuff on foot from Montenegro to Peje."

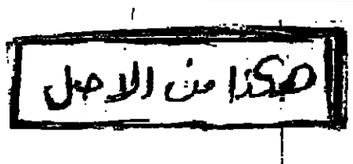
But the solidarity and network of resistance cannot banish all the despair or grief of the bereaved. Occasionally a refugee became impatient as I listened through a young Albanian interpreter. They wanted direct contact, and used a phrase or two in German. "Grosse Katastrophe, grosse Katastrophe," one elderly man repeated. "Kaputt," said another, throwing up his hands.

The young veteran of the Bosnian war wanted stronger arms. "If somebody would help us and give us better weapons we could push the Serbs out. We have the morale and the people. We're just not strong enough technically. We can't do frontal assaults," he said.

But the majority of those I spoke to were not in a condition to have a go, however patriotic they felt. To stop the serial killer striking yet again, they want a properly-trained policeman whose chosen career involves risk.

"Only big soldiers," pleaded a middle-aged woman in German. "Nato?" I asked. She pursed her lips and nodded.





صكنا من الاعلى





Pugnacious Jeremy Paxman, favoured by frontrunner Granada, and Trevor McDonald, whose viewer-friendly style appealed to Carlton PHOTOGRAPHS: JEFF OVERS and RICHARD KENDALL

Paxman versus McDonald for ITV's prestigious 60 Minutes

Stuart Millar

TWO of Britain's most popular journallsts have emerged as frontrunners to present the ITV version of the eminent American news magazine, 60 Minutes — a development billed as the most prestigious in current affairs broadcasting for a generation.

Despite their vastly contrasting styles, Jeremy Paxman, the pugnacious presenter of Newsnight, and Trevor McDonald, the friendly face of News at Ten, are being touted as the main contenders to front the programme ITV hopes will reestablish its reputation for authoritative journalism.

Carlton and 20/20 Television want to use McDonald paired with the Channel 5 news anchor, Kirsty Young.

In secret presentations to ITV on May 28, Paxman was proposed as presenter by Granada, which favours his hard-hitting reputation and his appeal to younger viewers. He was also backed by Lord Hollick's United News and Media, which owns the regional ITV stations, Anglia, HTV and Meridian.

Insiders stress that a decision is not imminent. Senior executives have yet to choose a company, and only then can detailed negotiations begin with potential anchors. Even then, they may be under contract elsewhere or simply uninterested in the job.

ITV, which hopes the programme will be broadcast every Wednesday from early next year, instructed contending companies not to enter into contracts with presenters to prevent a bidding war before the production contract had been awarded. Instead, they were allowed to approach their targets only for permission to use their names in the bids. But it is accepted that there is a limited pool from which to choose a suitable presenter.

Despite being named Interviewer of the Year by the Royal Television Society last month, Paxman, is said to be feeling unsettled at the BBC. His contract with Newsnight runs out in September, and he may be unable to resist the twin temptations of a reported £500,000 salary and a high-profile ITV programme which would go out to a peak-time audience of 8 million.

But claims that he has already become the clear favourite may prove premature. McDonald's popularity, especially with ITV viewers, as well as his accessibility, makes him a strong contender. Pairing him with Young would meet the requirement of appealing to a younger audience.

The successful bidder will have to have its choice of presenter approved by the network. As a result, even if Granada, the current frontrunner, wins the contract, ITV may choose to go with McDonald or the McDonald/Young pairing.

The launch of 60 Minutes is ITV's most important gambit to revitalise its factual programming — and it is likely to mean the end of World in Action, its current affairs flagship for the last 25 years.

The network has seen its ratings fall and has faced criticism from the Independent Television Commission about "cautious and predictable" scheduling and "disappointing" coverage of international issues. It was also accused by the Campaign for Quality Television of failing in its duty to provide serious documentaries.

Much rests therefore on its ability to translate the success of the CBS original, which is believed to have become the most lucrative programme in the history of American television since it was launched in 1968.

Unlike traditional British documentary programmes, 60 Minutes, and the young pretenders it has spawned — Hard Copy, Prime Time, and 5th Estate — cover three to four stories in each programme, using tightly-packaged "news dramas". The combination of high-quality current affairs reporting and sharp news reporting has made them appeal to millions of viewers.

Famous names, famous styles

Jeremy Paxman
Aged: 48
Education: Malvern College; St Catharine's College, Cambridge.
Career: BBC trainee, moved to Panorama; big break with Breakfast TV where he established his fearsome interview reputation; moved to Newsnight in 1990.
Interests: harangling students on University Challenge; fishing.
Style: the politician's nemesis — uncompromising and cynical.
High point: named Interviewer of the Year for legendary grilling of former home secretary Michael Howard.
Low point: watching his rival David Dimbleby get the plum jobs.

Trevor McDonald
Aged: 58
Education: Naprima College, Trinidad; University of the West Indies.
Career: Radio Trinidad; then BBC World Service's Caribbean section; BBC Radio in London in 1969; ITN four years later as first black reporter; Main News at Ten presenter since 1992.
Interests: cricket, cigars, proper English.
Style: viewer's friend — calm, cuddly and sensitive newsreader.
High point: did first interview with freed Nelson Mandela.
Low point: criticised for being "too friendly" while interviewing John Major, then prime minister.

Labour softens student loan blow

Lucy Ward
Political Correspondent

THE Government will today unveil limited concessions over student loans, to try to avert a threatened backbench rebellion against planned university tuition fees.

However David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, will stand firm against demands that he drop plans to abolish the student maintenance grant in advance of new figures showing applications among school-leavers for this September are up by 1 per cent, despite the introduction of fees.

The Government considers the reaction of 18-year-olds its key political priority in introducing fees, and is prepared to live with further figures out this week showing the number of mature applicants remains down 10 per cent on last year.

Thirty-five Labour MPs have signed rebel amendments to the Teaching and Higher Education Bill, to be debated in the Commons today, though it is thought the number actually voting against the Government could be as few as 10, with a similar number abstaining.

Mr Blunkett will not water down plans to bring in £1,000-a-year means-tested tuition fees or abolish grants, but he will announce moves to extend state-subsidised loans for mature students up to age 55 rather than the planned 50.

In a further move aimed at winning round objectors on the left, there is also expected to be some further financial help for single parents and children from one-parent families while studying.

Despite protests from Scottish MPs spurred on by furious universities, there will be no action to deal with the controversial "Scottish anomaly" in the Bill, under which English, Welsh and Northern Irish students must pay the full four years' worth of fees to take the standard four-year degree course at universities north of the border, while Scottish students and those from the rest of the European Union pay for only three.

Instead, the Government will encourage Scottish universities to allow students from the rest of the UK, who spend two years in the sixth form against Scottish students' one, to start degree courses in the second year, saving them a year's fees.

There will also be no move, despite pressure from adult learning campaigners, to extend the government loans package to part-time students, who have always had to pay fees. They will be eligible for help from an access fund which ministers have promised to double.

Though leftwingers, including Tony Benn, yesterday reiterated opposition to the changes in higher education funding, ministers do not fear a rebellion on anything like the scale of the lone parents protest last December, in which 47 Labour MPs defied the whip and voted against the Government.

The applications figures from the University and Colleges Admissions Service, UCAS, are timely and will allow Mr Blunkett to argue that, depite fears to the contrary, the introduction of fees does not put school leavers off attending university. However, the 1 per cent increase this year may be partly down to an overall rise in the number of 18-year-olds.

The 10 per cent fall in mature applicants is likely to be explained as an inevitable dip after a boom in adults coming late to higher education. It follows a drop last year, which was not affected by fees.

The Government will also insist that extra funding from fees is essential if access to higher education is to be widened to include new groups of students.

Lynne Jones, one of the Labour MPs to voice concern over the proposals, yesterday told GMTV's Sunday Programme she and "a lot" of others would be abstaining in today's vote.

Tony Benn, speaking on Sky TV's Sunday with Adam Boulton, said he would vote against fees and the abolition of grants, which would reduce access to higher education for the less well-off. He dismissed the suggestion that the Government's plans were justified because graduates tended to earn more in later life.

"Tax them if they are rich, not if they are educated," he said.

Review

Time has come to dig the Irish roots

Garth Cartwright
Fleadh
Finsbury Park, north London

THIS MAY be the year when the festival phenomenon starts to retract. The cancellation of last month's Universe Festival and the axing of July's proposed Lighthouse Family-headlined event are sending warning signals through an overcrowded industry.

Even the Fleadh, throughout this decade Irish London's big day out, flirted with failure. Initial headliners Simple Minds sold so few tickets that they were quickly dumped and replaced by those granddaddies of Manchester baggy, James.

Having scored a surprise number 1 with their Best Of CD earlier this year, James attracted a decent audience of overgrown indie kids. That the weather provided perfect festival sunshine helped, and around 18,000 punters (capacity 25,000) attended — enough to see the Fleadh return next year but as exactly what type of festival? Outside of U2 — who would never deign to play such an event — no contemporary Irish act is capable of headlining the event while it is treated as a leading rock festival. Yet the booking of such pompous rockers as Simple Minds and James detracts from the spirit that once made it the most relaxed festival of the year.

Downsizing might be an idea — with an emphasis on acoustic and country artists, although the feasibility of running the Fleadh as such must be uncertain.

Saturday's Fleadh posed many questions, yet offered few answers. Australia's Robert Foster and Canada's Ron Sexsmith both displayed their fine song-writing talents, veteran Irish singers Paul Brady and Mary Coughlan remain towering presences, while New Orleans native Dr John provided the day's most magical music with his swaggering, piano-driven, psychedelic funk. And those, pretty much, were the highlights. Billy Bragg, who surely could claim native status at Finsbury Park, was backed by a band who stomped through a set of Woody Guthrie numbers, aided by Bragg's onstage commentary. Mike Scott ignored the Irish roots he adopted in the 80s, instead rocking in a seriously retrogressive manner. Shane McGowan managed to stand up long enough to bluster through a dozen crowd pleasers, though the toothless wonder could be wearing out his lengthy welcome.

Ireland's first family, the Corrs, have looks, melody and charm but so little substance a strong breeze would have blown them off stage. Substance is something Sinead O'Connor has no shortage of and she attracted a near capacity crowd to the smaller stage while James blustered through their hits and misses on the main stage.

Sinead O'Connor still possesses a heavenly voice and hellish songs. Sure, she sang *that* song and the roof nearly lifted. But she also sang too many other earnest epics to suggest she has matured as an artist.

The Fleadh is now seen as being promoted as the Guinness Fleadh. A future as a beer festival accompanied by a few singers? I'll drink to that.

'Thatcherism really is vanquished in the public mind – yet it lingers on in Labour's more fearful thoughts. For there is nothing more communitarian we do in life than to pay our taxes.'
Polly Toynbee

Comment, page 8



Whether it's teenagers keeping up with their friends, children discovering the internet, or you working from home, these days one phone line just isn't enough.

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APPLIES TO BT CUSTOMERS ORDERING A 2ND RESIDENTIAL ANALOGUE EXCHANGE LINE AT THE SAME ADDRESS. LINE RENTAL APPLIES. MINIMUM PERIOD 12 MONTHS. DISCOUNTS MUST BE BILLED TO THE SAME ACCOUNT.

Strategy sought as more males aged 16 to 24 kill themselves than die on the roads

Belfast suicides rise as Troubles subside

John Mullin
Ireland Correspondent

POLITICIANS and community workers in west Belfast are to meet social services today to try to co-ordinate a strategy against the mushrooming suicide rate.

"It is the No. 1 issue in the city," a youth worker said.

Suicides among males aged 16 to 24 in Northern Ireland are for the first time outstripping deaths through road accidents. The Government is coming under pressure to investigate.

John Leckey, the Belfast coroner who said there had been a significant increase this year in young pople hanging themselves, revealed that he was dealing with the apparent suicides of children as young as 10. He wrote last week to Tony Worthington, the Northern Ireland health minister, asking him to announce an inquiry.

The problem areas include west and north Belfast. As well as having pockets of severe deprivation, each of the inner-city areas has been on the frontline throughout the Troubles.

Some psychiatrists believe the reduction in terrorist violence may be contributing to the increase. People are focusing again on their own problems rather than those of the community.

Suicide rates in Northern Ireland fell sharply soon after the conflict began in 1969, and are still below those in the rest of the United Kingdom. Britain had similar experiences in both world wars and the Falklands war.

Government figures show that 33 people under 25 killed themselves in Northern Ireland in 1997. More than 20 young people are believed to have committed suicide this year, with a 20-year-old and 15-year-old boy hanging themselves in separate incidents last week.

One survey, by research students at the University of Ulster, claimed that 16 people in Northern Ireland were attempting to take their own life every day. One, on average, was successful.

While health officials doubted the problem was as serious as that, Mr Leckey conceded that official statistics underestimate the extent of suicide. He said coroners were reluctant to bring in a suicide verdict unless the proof was overwhelming.

"Experts might be able to say for sure whether the ceasefire has something to do with the increase," he said. "My own view is that research be done both before and after the ceasefire."

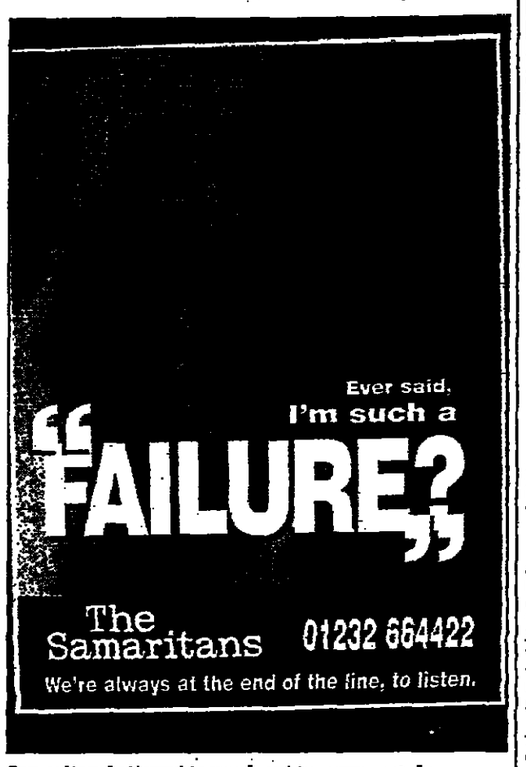
Fra McCann, a Sinn Fein councillor in west Belfast, said his 21-year-old niece had hanged herself in March. She was one of 11 people that he knew had committed suicide in west Belfast this year.

Mr McCann, who will be at today's summit, said: "Parents are panic-stricken. It is unbelievable, an epidemic. People are terrified of arguing with their kids in case they go off and kill themselves. It dominates every conversation in west Belfast. The rumour mill is in overdrive."

The Samaritans said yesterday: "We are very, very concerned. We cannot be sure why it is happening, but there are big increases in some areas. The incidence rate is very high in west Belfast. We find young men are just unwilling to talk about their feelings.

"We have just put 50 advertisements on to buses specifically to reach out to young people. We are considering a cinema advert."

William Smith, a community worker across the peaceline on the Protestant Shankill Road, said: "The number of attempted suicides is frightening. Adults who need help know where they can go. But children don't. We have to actively seek these children out to get them help. It is the No. 1 issue in every area of Belfast."



Samaritans' attempt to reach out to young people


Richard and Shelley Keeble both of Essex fire service are battling for public safety

Fire strike could spread over threat of sackings

Seumas Milne
Labour Editor

ANY attempt to sack striking Essex firefighters, who today begin the first of three planned stoppages in protest against cuts, could spark the first national firefighters' walkout for 20 years, general secretary of the Fire Brigades Union, Ken Cameron, said last night.

His warning came after letters were sent by Essex county council to every local FBU member stating that strikers were "liable to be dismissed" and would "not be reinstated".

Tony Wright, Labour leader of Essex fire authority — controlled by Labour and Liberal Democrats — seemed to draw back from the sacking threat yesterday, saying that no decision had been taken to dismiss firefighters for supporting the three scheduled strikes.

But he added: "We can't rule these things out. It depends how long the dispute goes on."

It is understood that both Conservative and Liberal Democrat councillors want to press ahead with mass sackings of firefighters, and there is speculation that local Liberal Democrats may switch their support to the Tories to carry them out.

Nigel Baker, chief Liberal Democrat fire authority negotiator, said last night that dismissals were a "proper tactic".

The sacking threat is particularly sensitive for Labour, as the Government's recently published Fairness at Work white paper promised legislation to outlaw such employer tactics as a form of unfair dismissal.

Mr Cameron said that any sackings would be bound to trigger unofficial sympathy walkouts around the country. "There is a serious threat that this could turn into a national strike, which we obviously wish to avoid."

The dispute, which will bring army-run Green Goddess fire engines back to the streets of Essex barely a year after the county's last string of fire strikes, centres on the fire authority's determination to save around £300,000 by shedding 16 firefighters' jobs.

Today's stoppage will be for four hours from 10am, but the next strikes, planned for June 12 and 15, will last up to 24 hours — followed by probable further escalation.

The FBU argues that cutting crew levels at a time when both fire and road accident calls have risen sharply will endanger the safety of both firefighters — 20 of whom have died on the job since 1990 — and the public.

The union wants the three Essex councils that make up the fire authority to dip into their £26 million reserves to pay to keep up the numbers.

But Mr Wright counters that crews have been reduced successfully in other fire authorities, while other Essex services — such as education and social services — have been cut without industrial confrontation.

"We seem to have a pretty militant bunch in Essex, but we're not prepared to back down for the third year in a row and let the FBU fix our fire budget".

Over the past decade, funding for the fire service has been squeezed and thousands of firefighters jobs lost. Resistance to cuts has hitherto been strongest in Merseyside, where the FBU staged more than two dozen walkouts in 1995-6, and Derbyshire.

Now Essex has become the FBU's advance guard, with a successful strike ballot two years ago, and seven strikes in April and May last year. Union officials trace the Essex FBU's new-found confidence back to the influence of a series of seminars held with leftish academics in the early 1990s, which led to more effective union communication and collective working.

Shelley and Richard Keeble, both aged 31 and one of several husband and wife teams working for the Essex fire service — she is a fire control officer in Brentwood, he a firefighter in Chelmsford — reject claims that, in Shelley's words, they are "militant, stroppy and lefty".

"Most people who work in the fire service are frontline, dedicated people, who want to do something useful for the public," Richard said. "We know the cuts will make things more unsafe for us and the public — and we're doing our best to stop them."

Murder case dropped against wife, daughter

Ex-beauty queen tells of 'release from hell' two days before trial

John Ezard

A FORMER beauty queen was said to feel as if "released from hell" yesterday after being told that charges of murdering her millionaire husband had been dropped.

Linda Watson, aged 42, was given the news two days before she and her daughter, Amanda London-Williams, aged 24, were to appear at the Old Bailey today. The Crown Prosecution Service dropped the case for insufficient evidence after an inquiry in which detectives took 200 statements. The pair were charged last July — with an unknown third person — of murdering Richard Watson, aged 55, in the drive of their £400,000 home near East Grinstead, Sussex. They denied the offence.

Mr Watson, who ran a computer company and had been involved with companies now liquidated, was killed by a shotgun bullet in the head after parking his car.

His daughter said she saw the killer dressed in black, with a balaclava hiding his face. Police said the murder was well planned.

A few days beforehand, Mr Watson was robbed of £2,000 by two men wearing balaclavas. He was left with a 3in cut on his face. Mrs Watson, a former Miss Arbroath and a Miss Scotland runner-up, and Miss London-Williams, a ballet teacher and an former Ballet Rambert dancer, were told by defence lawyers of the decision to drop charges.

The decision, confirmed by the CPS in a statement yesterday, was taken after legal consultations on Friday.

A friend of Mrs Watson said: "It has been hell for them both. This has been a terrible ordeal for her at a time when she was trying to deal with the grief of her husband having been murdered. I think time will show there were flaws in the police investigation and avenues of inquiry that officers failed to follow. I was confident Linda would never be convicted, because there has never been any evidence against her."

Jeff Hide, solicitor for Miss London-Williams, Mrs Watson's daughter by her first marriage to the Scottish folk singer Bryan Taylor, said: "On the evidence we have there was no chance of a conviction, because Amanda was not involved."

Mother and daughter said they were in the house at the time Mr Watson was shot, making Christmas puddings.

His firm, with a staff of eight, exports industrial computer systems worldwide and reportedly sold equipment to the Moscow telephone exchange. One theory explored by police was that Mr Watson might have fallen victim to a contract killer hired by the Russian mafia.

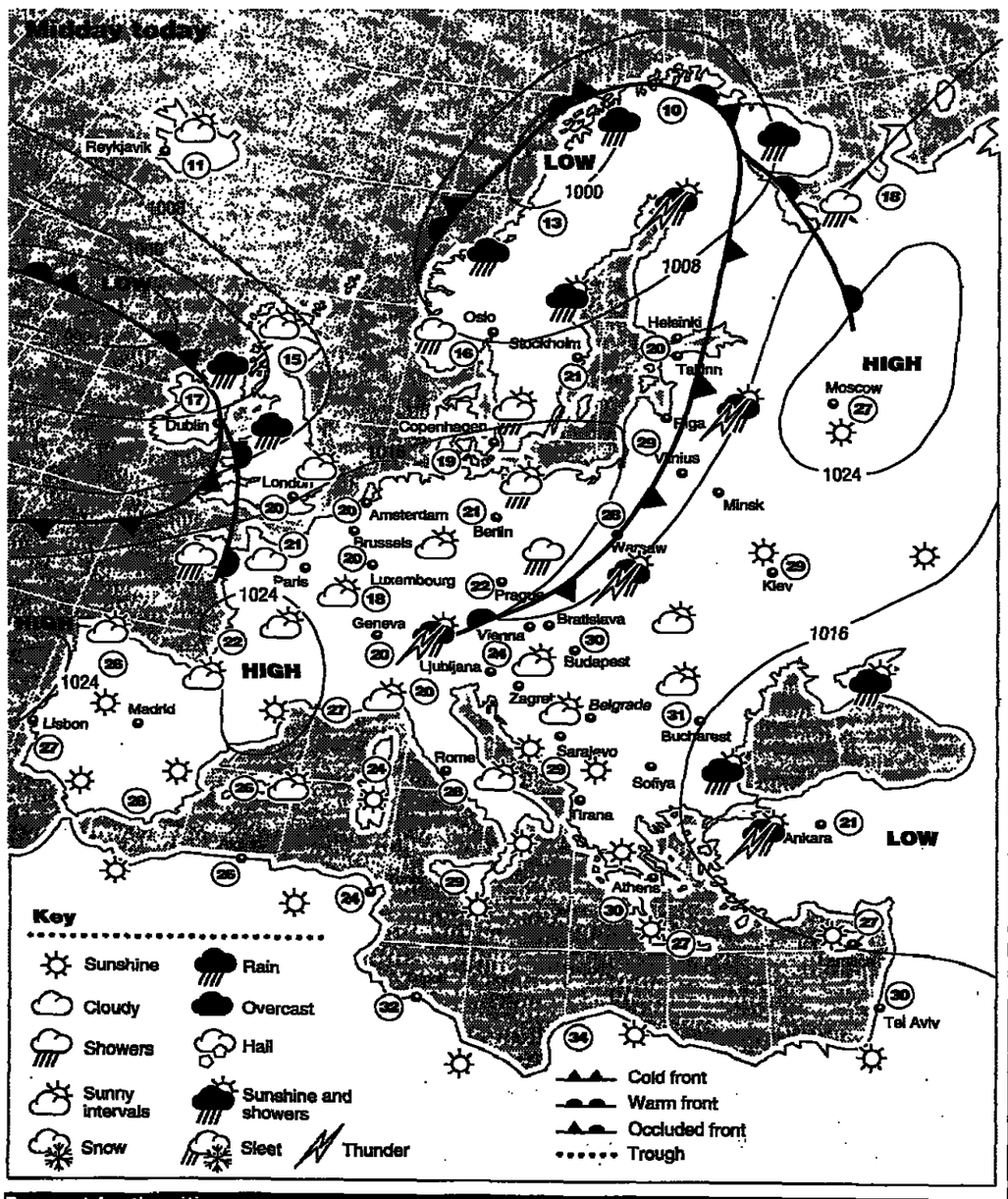
The killing was featured on the BBC's Crimewatch programme, and a £50,000 reward was put up for information leading to a conviction.

A month later Mrs Watson told journalists: "I would not be able to speak to you now if I was not sedated.

"I can't recount what happened. I have explained to the police that a psychologist has said that I cannot be taken past a certain point because I have not actually come to terms with what has happened.

"I can't understand why this has happened. My life has ended."

The weather in Europe



Forecast for the cities

	Today max	min		Tomorrow max	min		Wednesday max	min		Thursday max	min
Algiers	26	16 S	Algiers	27	16 F	Algiers	29	16 S	Algiers	27	15 F
Amsterdam	20	14 Sh	Amsterdam	20	12 Sh	Amsterdam	18	12 R	Amsterdam	16	9 Sh
Athens	30	21 S	Athens	29	21 F	Athens	29	21 F	Athens	29	20 F
Berlin	21	12 R	Berlin	23	16 F	Berlin	24	14 Sh	Berlin	20	10 R
Bonn	21	14 C	Bonn	22	15 Sh	Bonn	21	12 R	Bonn	17	8 R
Brussels	20	13 Sh	Brussels	21	13 Sh	Brussels	19	12 Sh	Brussels	16	9 R
Copenhagen	19	11 Sh	Copenhagen	18	13 F	Copenhagen	18	11 Sh	Copenhagen	18	9 Sh
Crete	27	19 S	Crete	28	19 F	Crete	27	19 F	Crete	26	18 F
Geneva	21	12 F	Geneva	24	15 F	Geneva	22	13 R	Geneva	20	11 Sh
Larnaca	27	18 S	Larnaca	28	19 S	Larnaca	28	20 S	Larnaca	28	20 S
Lisbon	27	17 S	Vienna	25	14 Th	Lisbon	23	15 S	Lisbon	26	16 S
London	20	15 Sh	London	20	12 R	London	16	10 Sh	London	18	9 R
Madrid	30	16 S	Madrid	32	16 F	Madrid	30	13 F	Madrid	29	13 S
Milan	25	16 Th	Milan	28	17 S	Milan	27	17 Sh	Milan	26	15 Th
Nice	27	17 S	Nice	24	16 S	Nice	25	18 F	Nice	25	17 F
Oslo	16	11 Sh	Oslo	18	12 Sh	Oslo	18	11 Sh	Oslo	17	10 Sh
Paris	21	14 Sh	Paris	23	12 Th	Paris	20	11 Sh	Paris	18	10 R
Prague	22	10 Sh	Prague	22	12 F	Prague	24	12 Sh	Prague	19	9 R
Rome	26	13 Th	Rome	26	14 F	Rome	26	15 S	Rome	24	13 Sh
Stockholm	21	11 R	Stockholm	19	10 F	Stockholm	20	11 Sh	Stockholm	19	11 Sh
Tunis	27	19 F	Tunis	27	18 F	Tunis	29	20 S	Tunis	29	19 S
Vienna	25	14 Th	Vienna	25	15 F	Vienna	26	16 Sh	Vienna	20	13 Th

C, cloudy; Dr, drizzle; F, fair; Fg, fog; H, hail; R, rain; Sl, sleet; Sn, snow; S, sunny; Th, thunder. * (previous day's readings)

European outlook

Scandinavia:
Scandinavia will be unsettled with, heavy showers, thunderstorms and longer spells of rain in many areas. Temperatures in the west will range from around 10C in the north and 16-19C in the south. Finland, however, will reach 22-26C.

Low Countries, Germany, Austria, Switzerland:
The Low Countries and Germany will be mainly fine with sunny spells, although there will always be a risk of an afternoon shower. The alpine countries will have some heavy, some times thundery showers. Highs 18-21C, but up to 24C in eastern Austria before cooler weather arrives later.

France:
Most of France will have a dry day with some good spells of sunshine, the best of this along the south coast. However, cloud will steadily thicken over Brittany bringing rain sweeping across northern France during the day. Highs 19-22C, but up to 27C along the south coast.

Spain and Portugal:
Both Spain and Portugal will have virtually unbroken hot sunshine in most areas with cooling sea breezes on the coasts. The northern coast and mountains of Spain will be a bit cloudier, but will remain dry. Highs will ranging from 22C in the north to 34C around Cordoba.

Italy:
Northern Italy will see more in the way of cloud with the risk of a shower over the Alps, but most of the country will stay dry with plenty of hot sunshine. Highs 24.

Greece:
It will be fine and dry with long periods of sunshine in all areas with cooling sea breezes around the coast and islands. Highs 29-32C inland, but 26-28C in coastal areas and the islands.

Around the world

Yesterday's lunchtime reports

Ajaccio	F	24	75	London	Sh	14	57
Algiers	F	24	75	Los Angeles	C	18	64
Alicante	C	25	77	Luxembourg	C	16	61
Amsterdam	C	16	61	Madrid	F	24	75
Athens	S	31	88	Majorca	C	27	81
Auckland	Sh	17	63	Malaga	F	27	81
B Aires	C	20	68	Malta	C	28	82
Bahrain	S	39	102	Melbourne	C	11	52
Bangkok	C	31	88	Mexico City	R	22	72
Barcelona	C	23	73	Miami	C	34	93
Beijing	C	22	72	Milan	F	27	81
Belgrade	S	32	90	Montreal	C	14	57
Berlin	S	29	84	Moscow	C	21	70
Bermuda	C	27	81	Munich	C	26	79
Biarritz	D,	18	64	Nairobi	F	22	72
Bombay	F	36	97	Naples	M	26	82
Bordeaux	F	20	68	New Delhi	S	39	102
Boston	C	19	66	New Orleans	S	27	81
Brussels	C	17	63	New York	F	19	66
Budapest	S	33	91	Nice	C	23	73
Cairo	S	33	91	Oporto	F	20	68
Calcutta	C	36	97	Oslo	C	13	55
Cape Town	F	14	57	Paris	F	20	68
Casablanca	F	22	72	Perth	C	24	75
Chicago	C	14	57	Prague	Th	19	66
Copenhagen	Th	19	66	Reykjavik	S	11	52
Corfu	S	30	86	Rhodes	S	25	77
Dallas	S	23	73	Rio de Jan.	S	24	75
Dhaka	F	33	91	Rome	R	25	77
Dublin	Sh	15	59	Sarajevo	S	32	90
Faro	S	22	72	Singapore	R	27	81
Florence	M	30	86	Stockholm	F	16	61
Frankfurt	R	20	68	Strasbourg	Th	22	72
Funchal	F	25	79	Sydney	F	17	63
Geneva	Sh	17	63	Tel Aviv	S	29	84
Gibraltar	S	25	77	Tenerife	F	28	79
Helsinki	C	13	55	Tokyo	R	16	61
Hong Kong	C	24	75	Toronto	C	15	59
Innsbruck	Sh	21	70	Tunis	F	27	81
Istanbul	F	23	73	Vancouver	F	20	68
Jo'burg	S	10	50	Venice	C	25	77
K Lumpur	Sh	30	86	Vienna	S	34	93
Kingston	F	33	91	Warsaw	F	31	88
Larnaca	S	27	81	Washington	F	21	70
Lima	C	23	73	Wellington	C	13	55
Lisbon	S	22	72	Zurich	C	23	73

Television and radio

BBC 1

7.00am Business Breakfast. **9.00** BBC Breakfast News. **10.00** A Date with Fate. **10.30** Kilroy. **11.00** The General. **11.30** Beautiful Things. **11.40** News; Regional News. **11.50** International Cricket: First Test. **2.00** One O'Clock News. **2.30** Regional News. **2.40** The Weather Show. **2.45** Neighbours. **3.10** Through the Keyhole. **3.40** Ironside. **4.30** Playdays. **4.50** Pomwald the Reindeer. **5.00** Hububb. **5.15** Casper. **5.35** 50/50. **6.00** Newsround. **6.10** Blue Peter. **6.35** Neighbours. **7.00** Six O'Clock News. **7.30** Regional News Magazine. **8.00** TeTy Addicts. **8.30** Here and Now. **9.00** EastEnders. **9.30** Kiss Me Kate. **10.00** Nine O'Clock News. **10.30** The Clampers. **11.00** Panorama. **11.45** Film '98 with Barry Norman. **12.15** FILM: The Carey Treatment. **1.50** FILM: That's Your Funeral. **3.10** Weather. **3.15** BBC News 24.

BBC 2

7.00am Managing Schools: Partnership or Going it Alone? **8.00** Teletubbies. **8.25** The Flintstone Comedy Show. **8.50** Blue Peter. **9.15** Funky Phantom. **9.35** Teddy Trucks. **9.45** Harry and the Hendersons. **10.10** Daytime on Two: Teaching Today. **10.45** Storytime. **11.00** Teletubbies. **11.30** Daytime on Two: Words and Pictures. **11.45** Job Bank. **12.00** Look and Read. **12.20** Zig Zag. **12.40** Landmarks. **1.00** Shakespeare: The Animated Tales. **1.30** Working Lunch. **2.00** Odds Bodkin. **2.10** Top Gear Motorsport. **2.40** International Cricket: First Test. **7.00** The Simpsons. **7.30** Space 1999. **8.15** They Who Dare. **8.30** Computers Don't Bite: The Beginners' Guide. **9.00** Birding with Bill Oddie. **9.30** The Travel Show. **10.00** Reputations. **10.50** Trade Secrets. **11.00** Stressed Eric. **11.25** Video Nation Caribbean Shorts. **11.30** Newsnight. **12.15** International Cricket: First Test. **1.00** The Midnight Hour. **1.30** Learning Zone: Open University: The Scientific Community in 17th-Century England. **7.00** Close (at 6.10).

BBC Prime

● Intelsat

7.00am World News. **7.25** World Weather. **7.30** Mr Wyrnl. **7.45** Blue Peter. **8.10** The Prince and the Pauper. **8.45** Style Challenge. **9.15** Can't Cook, Won't Cook. **9.40** Kilroy. **10.30** Animals in Uniform. **11.00** Vanity Fair. **11.55** Change That. **12.20** Style Challenge. **12.45** Can't Cook, Won't Cook. **1.15** Kilroy. **1.55** Songs of Praise. **2.30** Animals in Uniform. **3.00** Vanity Fair. **4.00** Weather. **4.05** Change That. **4.25** Mr Wyrnl. **4.40** Blue Peter. **5.05** The Prince and the Pauper. **5.30** Can't Cook, Won't Cook. **6.00** World News. **6.25** World Weather. **6.30** Wildlife. **7.00** Animals in Uniform. **7.30** Rick Stein's Taste of the Sea. **8.00** Porridge. **8.30** Birds of a Feather. **9.00** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates. **10.00** World News. **10.25** World Weather. **10.30** In Search of the Trojan War. **11.20** Tracks. **12.00** Love Hurts. **12.50** World Weather. **1.00** The Authentick and Ironical Historie of Henry V.

BBC World

● Eutelsat

7.00am World News. **7.30** Earth Report. **8.00** World News. **8.30** Hard Talk. **9.00** Word News. **9.30** Future Fantastic. **10.00** World News. **10.30** World Focus: Correspondent. **11.00** World News. **11.30** Hard Talk. **12.00** World News. **12.30** Top Gear. **1.00** The World Today. **2.30** Correspondent. **3.00** World News. **3.15** World Business Report. **3.30** The World Today. **4.30** Film '98 with Barry Norman. **5.00** World News. **5.30** Hard Talk. **6.00** World News. **6.30** Earth Report. **7.00** The World Today. **8.30** Hard Talk. **9.00** World News. **9.30** Window on Europe. **10.00** World News. **10.10** World Business Report. **10.30** Holiday - Fasten Your Seatbelt. **11.00** World News. **11.10** Europe Direct. **12.00** World News. **12.30** World Business Report. **12.45** Asia Today. **1.00** World Headlines. **1.05** USA Direct. **1.30** Correspondent. **2.00** News. **2.30** Earth Report. **3.00** News. **3.30** Asia Today. **3.45** World Business Report. **4.00** News. **4.30** USA Direct. **5.00** News. **5.30** Asia Today. **5.45** World Business Report. **6.00** News. **6.30** World Focus: Window on Europe.

Radio 4

92.4-94.6 MHz; 198 kHz (1514)

7.00am Today. **10.00** Start the Week. **10.45** (LW) Daily Service. **10.45** (FM) Serial: Round Ireland with a Fridge. **11.00** News; Women's Hour. **12.00** (LW) Test Match Special. **12.00** (FM) News; Last Will and Testament. **12.30** Chambers. **1.00** News; You and Yours. **1.00** (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. **1.04** (LW) Test Match Special. **1.57** Weather. **2.00** The World at One. **2.30** (FM) Messenger. **2.30** (LW) Test Match Special. **3.00** News; The Archers. **3.15** News; Afternoon Play: The Devil and Pegasus. **4.00** Money Box Live: (0171) 580 4444. **4.30** Transplantations. **4.45** Excalibur. **5.00** News; The Food Programme. **5.30** Four Corners. **6.00** PM. **6.57** Weather. **7.00** Six O'Clock News. **7.30** Just a Minute. **8.00** News; The Archers. **8.15** Front Row. **8.45** Postcards: The Real Dennis Trueslove. **9.00** News; An Inspector Calls. **9.30** Analysis. **10.00** News; Call of the Wild. **10.30** Start the Week. **11.00** The World Tonight. **11.45** Book at Bedtime: Master Georgie. **12.00** Radio 4 Appeal. **12.02** Late Night on 4: A Sense of History. **12.30** (LW) Today in Parliament. **12.30** (FM) A Night With. **1.00** News. **1.30** The Late Book: Psycho. **1.45** Shipping Forecast. **2.00** As World Service. **5.30** World News. **5.35** Shipping Forecast. **5.40** Inshore Forecast. **5.45** Prayer for the Day. **5.47** Farming Today.

BBC World Service

BBC World Service can be received in England on MW 648 kHz (463m) and in Western Europe on LW 198 kHz (1515m)

8.00am News. **8.15** Songs of Home. **8.30** Omnibus. **9.00** News. **9.15** Off the Shelf. **9.30** The Vintage Chart Show. **10.00** News; (648 only) News in German. **10.10** Pause for Thought. **10.15** Newsdesk. **11.00** News. **11.05** World Business Report. **11.15** Record News. **11.30** Westway Access. **11.45** Sports Round-Up. **12.00** Newsdesk. **12.30** Omnibus. **1.00** Newsdesk. **1.30** Jazzamatazz. **2.00** News; (648 only) News in German. **2.05** World Business Report. **2.25** Britain Today. **2.30** Seven Days. **2.45** Sports Round-Up. **3.00** Newshour. **4.00** News. **4.05** Outlook. **4.30** Word Up. **5.00** World News. **5.05** Sports Roundup. **5.15** Westway Access. **5.30** Hot New Country; (648 only) News in German. **6.00** Europe Today. **6.30** World Business Report. **6.45** Britain Today. **7.00** News. **7.15** Insight. **7.30** Seven Days; (648 only) News in German. **7.45** Sports Round-Up. **8.00** Newsdesk. **8.30** Quote, Unquote. **9.00** News. **9.01** Outlook. **9.25** Pause for Thought. **9.30** Multitrack Hit List. **10.00** Newshour. **11.00** News. **11.05** World Business Report. **11.15** Britain Today. **11.30** Crisis in the House of David. **12.00** Newsdesk. **12.30** Insight. **12.45** Sports Round-Up. **1.00** News. **1.05** Outlook. **1.30** Multitrack Hit List. **2.00** Newsdesk. **2.30** Westway. **2.45** Britain Today. **3.00** Newsdesk. **3.30** Seven Days. **3.45** You and the Law. **4.00** Newsday. **4.30** On Screen. **5.00** News. **5.05** World Business Report. **5.15** Sports Round-Up. **5.30** The World To 6.00 The World Today.

Sky Movies Screen 1

● Astra

7.00 The Guru. **9.00** Pulmstul. **10.40** Invisible Dad. **12.30** Time to Say Goodbye? **2.00** The Guru. **4.00** Runaway Car. **5.00** Invisible Dad. **6.00** Time to Say Goodbye? **8.30** The Movie Show. **10.00** Striptease. **12.00** Showgirls. **2.10** Angels and Insects. **4.10** Rumpelstiltskin.

Sky Movies Screen 2

● Astra

7.00 The Foxes of Harrow. **9.00** Race for Your Life, Charlie Brown. **10.30** The Greatest Story Ever Told. **1.30** The Ascent. **3.10** In the Line of Duty: Smoke Jumpers. **4.50** The Foxes of Harrow. **6.50** The Ascent. **8.30** Special Feature: The Wedding Singer. **9.00** Shadow Zone: The Undead Express. **11.00** Screamers. **12.50** Clockers. **3.00** Crimes of Silence. **4.35** Funny Man. **5.20** Matt the Gooseboy.

Sky Movies Gold

● Astra

5.00 Magnificent Obsession. **7.00** Demetrius and the Gladiators. **9.00** Easy Money. **11.00** Erik the Viking. **12.35** Blue City. **2.00** The Sand Pebbles. **4.55** Build My Gallows High. **6.30** Close.

Sky Sports

● Astra

8.00 Golf: English Open. **10.00** Racing News. **10.30** Aerobics Oz Style. **11.00** Rugby League: Warrington v Bradford. **1.00** Aerobics Oz Style. **1.30** This Week in Baseball. **2.00** World Motor Sport. **4.00** Rugby League: Warrington v Bradford. **6.00** Bowling: World Ten-Pin Masters. **7.00** Sports Centre. **7.30** Survival of the Fittest. **8.00** Rugby Union: USA v Canada. **9.00** Cricket: England v South Africa. **11.00** Sports Centre. **11.30** Motorcycling: TT Races. **12.30** Rugby Union: USA v Canada. **1.30** Sports Centre. **2.00** Bowling: World Ten-Pin Masters. **3.00** Survival of the Fittest. **3.30** High 5. **4.00** Motorcycling: TT Races. **5.00** Sports Centre. **5.30** Close.

Sky Sports 3

● Astra

1.00 Bowling: World Ten-Pin Masters. **2.00** Wild Spirits. **2.30** NFL Europe American Football: Barcelona v England. **7.30** High 5. **8.00** Fish TV. **9.00** International Bowls: Australia v. Scotland. **11.00** Sports Classics. **12.00** Golden Moments of the Olympics. **12.30** Close.

Eurosport

● Astra/Eutelsat

8.30 Sailing. **9.30** Football. **10.30** Football. **11.30** Motorsport. **12.00** Motorsport. **2.00** Golf: WPG Evian Masters. **3.00** Duathlon. **4.00** Football. **5.00** Football. **7.00** Bowling. **8.00** Extreme Sports. **9.00** Football. **11.00** Motorsport. **11.30** Boxing. **12.30** Motorsport: Formula 3000. **1.00** Motorsport. **1.30** Close.

Sky 1

● Astra

8.00 Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters from Beverly Hills. **8.30** Games World. **8.45** The Simpsons. **9.15** The Oprah Winfrey Show. **10.00** Hotel. **11.00** Another World. **12.00** Days of Our Lives. **1.00** Married...With Children. **1.30** M*A*S*H. **2.00** Geraldo. **3.00** Sally Jessy Raphael. **4.00** Jenny Jones. **5.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show. **6.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation. **7.00** The Nanny. **7.30** Married...With Children. **8.00** The Simpsons. **8.30** The Simpsons. **9.00** Star Trek: Voyager. **10.00** Sliders. **11.00** Friends. **11.30** Friends. **12.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation. **1.00** JFK: Reckless Youth. **2.00** Long Play.

National Geographic

● Astra

8.00 Day of the Elephant. **8.30** The Last Resort. **9.00** Nile. **9.30** Lifeboat. **10.00** Ambush. **10.30** Cairo Unveiled. **11.00** Tasman Jewel. **12.00** Land of the Tiger. **1.00** Braving Alaska. **2.00** Close.

UK Gold

● Astra

8.00 Never the Twain. **8.25** Neighbours. **9.00** Crossroads. **9.25** EastEnders. **10.00** The Bill. **10.30** Howards' Way. **11.00** Duty Free. **11.30** The Sullivans. **12.00** Casualty. **1.00** Crossroads. **1.25** Neighbours. **1.55** EastEnders. **2.30** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em. **3.10** Open All Hours. **3.40** Dangerfield. **4.45** The Bill. **5.15** Juliet Bravo. **6.20** EastEnders. **6.55** Big Break. **7.30** The Bill. **8.00** Last of the Summer Wine. **8.40** Waiting for God. **9.20** Butterflies. **10.00** Casualty. **11.00** Taggart. **12.10** Sports Arena's of the Year. **12.45** Between the Lines. **1.50** Spitting Image. **2.15** Best of Old Grey Whistle Test. **2.45** The Equalizer. **3.30** Shopping at Night.

NBC Superchannel

● Astra/Eutelsat

9.00 European Money Wheel. **10.00** Intersight. **1.00** There and Again. **2.00** Flavours of Italy. **2.30** VIP. **3.00** The Today Show. **4.00** Gardening by the Yard. **4.30** Interiors by Design. **5.00** Time and Again. **5.30** Europe a la Carte. **6.00** VIP. **7.00** Europe Tonight. **7.30** The Ticket. **8.00** National Geographic Television. **9.00** Super Sports: Major League Baseball Highlights. **10.00** The Best of The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. **11.00** Best of Late Night with Conan O'Brien. **12.00** The Ticket. **12.30** VIP. **1.00** The Best of The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. **2.00** Intersight. **2.30** VIP. **3.30** Travel Xpress. **4.00** The Ticket. **4.30** Flavours of Italy. **5.00** News. **6.00** Europe Today. **6.30** Europe Today.

Discovery

● Astra/Intelsat

5.00 Rex Hunt's Fishing World. **5.30** Zoo Story. **6.00** First Flights. **6.30** Time Travellers. **7.00** Animal Doctor. **7.30** Lifeigh Extremes. **8.00** Disaster. **9.00** History's Turning Points. **9.30** Bush Tucker Man. **10.00** Lonely Planet. **11.00** Robots' Revenge. **12.00** Wings. **1.00** First Flights. **1.30** Disaster. **2.00** Extreme Machines. **3.00** Close.

The Guardian
Women take sho at travel writers
Rory Carroll
In pictures: take assistance and advice
The intrepid make
Paul du Chaillu, 19th century explorer, in his book Exploration and Adventure in Equatorial Africa
After Ra Severed, two years how to t a page. Please don't turn this one.
Noah struggled through years of [illegible] his last to th a finger. At his bedside, [illegible] encouragement and care, was Colin, a [illegible] whose Celia danced two years all her [illegible] volunteer with VSO (Voluntary Service O[illegible] Here, she found herself training [illegible] health workers as well as treating patients. [illegible] seeing Noah's optimism return. For [illegible] to fight was the hardest thing he could [illegible] life. Please will you be a finger for [illegible] he or other volunteers would not be [illegible] philosophy of people like you. For [illegible] as few you can support VSO, either [illegible] number or by making a donation. [illegible] fill the coupon or call 0181 780 7500. [illegible] Thank you

صكذا من الاصل

صكذا من الاعل



service are battling for public safety

ıld spread sackings

hreat is par- p for Labour, ni's recently ess at Work nised legisla- ich employer m of unfair

said that any he bound to al sympathy the country. erious threat turn into a which we ob- vivid."

which will Green God- back to the barely a year t's last string entres on the determina- ound greater firefighters

and social services – be been cut without indus confrontation.

"We seem to have a mi militant bunch in Essex we're not prepared to k down for the third year r row and let the FBU fire fire budget"

Over the past decade fir ing for the fire service h been squeezed and thousa of firefighters jobs lost. Re tance to cuts has hard been strongest in Merseys where the FBU staged si than two dozen walkou 1985 and Derbyshire

has become FBU advance guard on industrial strike ballo and seven set in April and May last y

Women take shot at travel writers

Rory Carroll on plot to take testosterone out of adventure

THEY trekked across deserts and through jungles, scaled icy peaks, shot lions, dodged wildebeest, endured horrific diseases — and came back to tell the tale. Nothing could hurt this breed of stoic adventurer.

Until now. Travel writers have been stung by an attack from an unsuspected enemy: women.

Eleven female authors have declared war on gung-ho travel writing, claiming that the genre is dying and should be put out of its misery. Derring-do exploits turned into books are nothing but testosterone-fuelled follies, they say. Women should take over.

Dea Birkett and Sara Wheeler, co-editors of Amazonian, the Penguin anthology of women's new travel writing, accuse young male adventurers of being anachronistic shadows of their grandfathers.

"We've had enough willies in the jungle," said Ms Birkett. "Men want to conquer the territory they travel through and plant a flag on it. But women want to be conquered by the territory, to be enchanted and intrigued by it. That makes for better writing."

New travel writing, said Ms Birkett, aged 38, recognised the writer's inner journey as the most important part of a travel book.

The counter-charge is being led by the explorer Wilfred Thesiger, aged 88, who shot 70 lions in Sudan and 2,000 boars in Iraq. Any attempt to redefine the concept of travel literature would fail due to the genetic unsuitability of women, he said.

"I don't think it's right that they should dominate. Why? Because they're women: they're not the same as us. They're not equipped for exploration. A woman's job is to stay at home and look after the kids."

However Benedict Allan, aged 38, travel writer and broadcaster, said he would be relieved if a feminised genre enabled him to dump his Indiana Jones image, manufactured in response to perceived reader and viewer demand.

He said other writers shared Mr Thesiger's view but saved it for the company of fellow misogynists. "Men are more crafty now. They don't say these things unless they want a really bad hammering over political correctness.

"Personally I welcome the women. I've often been ... expected to do the hero stuff, but originally I was driven by curiosity."

Ms Birkett and Ms Wheeler said the point of the anthology — and of women's new travel writing — was that authors did not have to do anything daring or heroically suffer great acts of violence.

They want to banish the experience of one woman, who pitched a travel book at a publisher and was told it was a pity she hadn't been raped by 15 Arabs.

In their collection, stories could be unashamedly tame, intimate and domestic, concentrating on the emotional inner journey.

Jan Morris, aged 71, whose writing has continued to win awards since her sex change, said she would not be a reader. "When I became a woman I thought my eye would be sharper, see things better, like a computer you could flick on and flick off. But I've learned after an incredibly difficult time that that's not the case.

"The greatest writing is omnisexual, like Shakespeare."

Since Annie Hore's To Lake Tanganyika in a Bath Chair (1896), debate has raged over whether women's travel writing should be classified differently from accounts of conquest and races to be first.

The explorer Redmond O'Hanlon, aged 51, who takes with him as protection a Congo souvenir — the severed finger of a dead child — said women were better travellers. "All the so-called primitive groups respond better to women. Women are better at gossiping, they get more information faster.

"Also they're tougher than men. They've an extra layer of subcutaneous fat which helps to keep them warm."



Wilfred Thesiger dressed for Arabian travels: women should 'stay at home and look after the kids'; and (below) Dea Birkett: 'We've had enough of willies in the jungle'



The intrepid male

"I killed upwards of 1000 quadrupeds, of which 200 were stuffed and brought home, with more than 80 skeletons . . . I suffered 50 attacks of the African fever, taking, to cure myself, more than 14 ounzes of quinine. Of famine, long-continued exposures to the heavy tropical rains, and attacks of ferocious ants and venomous flies, it is not worth while to speak."

Paul du Chaillu, 19th century explorer, in his book Explorations and Adventure in Equatorial Africa.

Female 'inner eye'

"It is the absence of clutter, the hush, that great white expanse of nothingness, that is so appealing. A place that can allow your inward eye to see more clearly; a mental room of my own."

Ginny Dougary's Arctic adventure included in Amazonian: The Penguin Book of Women's New Travel Writing.

"The only use of a gentleman in travelling is to look after the luggage."

Emily Lowe, Unprotected Females in Norway, 1857

Plea on NHS death rate league tables

Jamie Wilson

PLANS by the Government to require hospitals to publish league tables showing the death rates of their patients received a cautious welcome from the medical profession yesterday.

From October, all hospitals in England and Wales will have to publish annual statistics showing the percentage of patients who died after being admitted for illnesses including heart disease, cancer and hip problems.

The aim of the tables is to set up an "early warning system" to highlight unusually high mortality statistics following the scandal at Bristol Royal Infirmary when 29 children died and four were brain damaged after heart operations over several years.

Stephen Thornton, chief executive of the NHS Confederation, which represents the health authorities and NHS trusts, gave a guarded welcome to the plans.

"It is best to be straightforward and open so that the public know where they stand," Mr Thornton said.

But he cautioned that the tables would have to be weighted to take account of the age of patients being treated, their condition on arrival at hospital, and a variety of other factors.

"We must be careful to compare like with like and to avoid defensive medicine where clinicians refuse to carry out some types of surgery," he said.

The tables will focus on deaths following surgery but include details such as ages of patients and the difficulties surrounding their cases.

The Government hopes the move will enable "meaningful comparisons" of death rate by hospital to be made and will act as a "powerful weapon to raise standards in the NHS" by galvanising surgeons and managers into making sure that lives are not put at risk unnecessarily.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is expected to tell Labour's backbench health committee on Tuesday: "Patients, wherever they live, have a right to expect the best possible care and treatment in the NHS.

"In the vast majority of cases they get it. However, the appalling tragedy of Bristol cannot be allowed to happen again. These tables will help provide the quality assurance patients want."

Charles Ashton, the medical director at the Worcester Royal Infirmary, said yesterday: "I would hate for us to get into a situtlon similar to that in America where the doctors with the lowest mortality rates only take on low risk cases to protect that reputation."

League tables introduced in Scotland in 1994 by the last government drew sharp criticism from doctors that they were misleading and would deter patients from getting treatment.

Plans to introduce the tables in England and Wales were shelved following the outcry, but it is thought that the events in Bristol have now forced the British Medical Association (BMA) into a U-turn.

The Government is also to set up an independent health improvement commission which will involve every NHS trust being visited every three or four years. It will have special powers to invest where problems arise and will be advised by a range of people, including patients themselves.

Let It Be to ring out in final tribute to Linda McCartney

Stuart Millar

THE Beatles classic Let It Be will ring around Trafalgar Square tonight as Sir Paul McCartney is joined by thousands of friends and wellwishers to pay tribute to his wife, Linda.

While the choir and the 700-strong congregation at St Martin-in-the-Fields sing the song as a final farewell, up to 3,000 animal rights campaigners and fans will hold a candle-lit vigil in the square outside the memorial service.

Some reports had suggested Sir Paul and the other two surviving Beatles, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, would perform Let It Be in their first public appearance together in almost 30 years.

But a spokesman for the family dismissed the claim as "unseemly".

Sir Paul has personally organised the service, which he wants to be as much a celebration of Linda's life as an opportunity to mourn her death from breast cancer in April, aged 56.

Accompanied by their children — Heather, 36, Mary, 27, Stella, 26, and James, 21 — he will give the address. The actress, Joanna Lumley, and the television writer, Carla Lane — both animal rights campaigners and friends of Linda — will also speak.

"I believe there will be a brief mourning and then a celebration of Linda's life," Ms Lane said. "Paul does not want it to be a morbid affair."

She will read a message from the thousands expected to attend the vigil outside.

Organised by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and other charities Linda was associated with, the vigil will draw supporters from across Britain and Europe.

● The childhood home of John Lennon in Woolton, Liverpool, has become the first building outside London to be nominated for a blue plaque award. But the award cannot be made until 2000, when he would have been dead for 20 years.

After Rajah's spine was severed, it took him two years to learn how to turn a page.

Please don't turn this one.



Reg. Charity: 313757

Rajah struggled through years of frustration and pain, just to lift a finger. At his bedside, giving him encouragement and care, was Celia, a 32 year old doctor. Celia donated two years of her life to work as a volunteer with VSO (Voluntary Service Overseas), in India. Here, she found herself training local community health workers as well as treating patients. Her reward was seeing Rajah's optimism return. For Rajah, lifting his finger was the hardest thing he had ever done in his life. Please will you lift a finger? The work of Celia and our other volunteers would not be possible without the generosity of people like you. For more information about how you can support VSO, either as a volunteer or by making a donation, fill in the coupon or call 0181 780 7391. Thank you.

VSO

Please send me more information about Voluntary Service Overseas.

Name

Address

Postcode

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Cheques payable to 'Voluntary Service Overseas' or debit my Master/Visa/Amex or other (delete as appropriate).

Card No. / / / Expiry date. /

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Britain warned over EU rivalries

Martin Walker in Helsinki

TONY BLAIR will be warned today by one of his closest political allies that Europe is at risk from a revival of nationalism in Germany and France, whose alliance has hitherto been the driving force behind the European project.

"This is my biggest worry," Finland's Social Democrat prime minister, Paavo Lipponen, told the Guardian. He said he was expressing the feelings of the European Union's smaller countries. "We all have to be aware of this danger. All the smaller member states agree on this.

"We saw these alarming signs in that grim weekend in Brussels, when we launched the single currency with that row between France and Germany over the central bank. Unless this trend can be reversed, and I will raise this at the EU summit in Cardiff, then Europe is heading for real trouble," Mr Lipponen said.

Finland, which takes over the EU presidency in the summer of next year, fears that rows over the EU budget, agricultural reform and, above all, EU enlargement could intensify nationalist trends. "Enlargement is looking much more problematic than it did a year ago," Mr Lipponen said.

Germany's refusal to continue as the paymaster of Europe, and the insistence of poorer members states, such as Spain and Greece, that the entry of impoverished eastern European countries should not be financed by cutting their payments from Brussels, created "an impossible equation which had to be addressed at the Cardiff summit this weekend.

"We need a complete and frank discussion to help us clear the air after this more nationalist tone from the big member states," Mr Lipponen said.

The Finnish prime minister, who was careful not to criticise openly the British stewardship of the EU presidency, said he understood Mr Blair "had been very active, with Northern Ireland and British domestic reform".

But he said he would leave Mr Blair in no doubt today that the European crisis had to be addressed, and that the Cardiff summit agenda had to go far beyond London's tired rhetoric about "bringing Europe closer to its citizens".

Mr Lipponen will also give Mr Blair a friendly warning that Britain's cause in Europe is not helped by his perceived preference for President Bill Clinton and the United States. This reinforces the impression in Europe that Britain's loyalty to US strategic interests undermines Mr Blair's claim to be "a partner in leadership in Europe".

It also puts into doubt the Clinton-Blair plans for a political summit this autumn of the world's centre-left party leaders. "The US system is not necessarily the model we Europeans want to follow," Mr Lipponen said.

"While it is a good idea to open a dialogue between Europe's social democrats and the American Democratic Party, we must also maintain links with the Republicans, and take into account the US role as a superpower."

As a modernising Social Democrat who has embraced the free market and slashed public spending and high tax rates, Mr Lipponen is a natural ally — and a frank admirer — of Mr Blair's New Labour. But like other established centre-left figures in Europe he chafes at the Blairite assumption that Britain is leading a new ideological movement.

"We don't have much to learn from New Labour," Mr Lipponen said. "Nordic social democracy has been pragmatic for a long time, and has learned to work with market economics. What is essential to learn from our model is consensus between government and its social partners in the economy, the employers and the unions."

Mr Lipponen, aged 57, still plays enthusiastic water-polo, and married a 30-year-old teacher this year who will soon give birth to their first child.

Running a "rainbow coalition" with Greens and conservatives, he slashed the state's share of Finland's gross domestic product from 60 to 50 per cent in an unprecedented burst of austerity to haul the country out of its deepest post-war recession. Finland now rivals Ireland as the fastest-growing economy in the EU.

The key to Finland's economic revival, after the collapse of the Soviet Union devastated its traditional export market and raised unemployment to 18 per cent, has been an Old Labour-style national incomes policy.

This feat, in a country where 80 per cent of the workforce are in trade unions, was achieved through a trade-off between a wage-restraint pact and tax cuts.



The FBI crime lab enlarges Thomas Jefferson's letter to reveal the words he crossed out in setting out his principle of the separation of Church and state PHOTOGRAPH: PAUL HOSEFROS

Sacred ideal founded on Jefferson's fudge

Martin Kettle in Washington

MODERN detective work by the FBI has revealed the political calculations behind one of Thomas Jefferson's most famous pronouncements — and thereby given hope to Christian groups that his words, contained in a 200-year-old document, may no longer be used by the courts to exclude daily prayers and religious observance from the heart of American life.

The 18th-century founders of the United States were opposed to their country having a state religion and established a clear separation between Church and state which has been consistently upheld by the courts ever since.

The principle was most famously embodied in an open letter that Jefferson, the third US president and the author of the Declaration of Independence, wrote to a group of Baptists in Danbury, Connecticut, in 1802. In it he said the constitution had built "a wall of separation between church and state".

Supreme court justices and policymakers have often cited these words, even though they form no part of the constitution, to show that the founding fathers wanted religion and government kept apart.

Over the years, the Danbury letter has shaped the courts' rulings on such subjects as organised prayers and religious education in schools, both of which are banned, and state funding to religious social service groups.

Americans have believed that the letter embodied one of those high-flown Jeffersonian ideals of free nationhood on which the US was founded. But the new research reveals a more pragmatic reality.

The draft of the letter contains several crossings out and passages of rewriting. When the Library of Congress in Washington began preparing an exhibition on "religion and the founding of the American republic", it handed the draft to the FBI to see if its experts could penetrate Jefferson's drafting process.

The FBI applied computerised crime lab techniques more often used on ransom notes and blackmail demands. The draft was scanned into a computer, enlarged and Jefferson's later ink additions removed dot by dot. It was like using "a digital airbrush", the FBI's laboratory head, Donald Kerr, said.

The scientists discovered that Jefferson had significantly toned down his language during the letter's drafting. Originally, he wrote of an "eternal separation" between Church and state, but then deleted "eternal".

He also removed several phrases which implied his right to proclaim thanksgiving celebrations because, as he wrote in a separate note, they "might give uneasiness to some of our republican friends in the eastern states".

If he had not deleted these phrases, he would have appeared to be claiming for himself, as president, some of the religious powers enjoyed by the English monarch, who was also head of the Church.

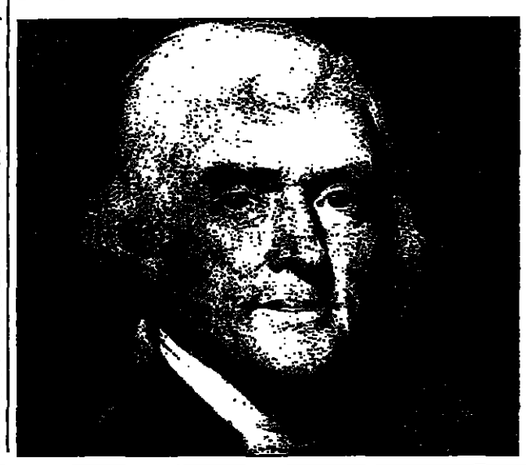
Because Jefferson was sometimes accused of atheism, this would have worried the country's strong religious believers, particularly those in New England, or the "eastern states" to which he referred. For this reason, it appears, he was underlining the importance of the separation of Church and state.

The discoveries do not shed much light on Jefferson's religious views, but they reveal, according to James Hutson of the Library of Congress, that he wrote the letter for "thoroughly political" reasons. Mr Hutson says the fact that Jefferson consulted two New Englanders in his cabinet before making the changes showed it was "not a dispassionate theoretical pronouncement".

Mr Hutson says Jefferson was anxious to calm the suspicion he was irreligious. Two days after writing the letter, he began attending Christian services in the House of Representatives.

The apparently academic debate about Jefferson's thinking may have more general repercussions because the religious right is renewing its campaign to break down the barriers erected by the courts against public religion.

Last week the House of Representatives voted on a motion to amend the constitution to allow organised prayer in state schools. It failed to garner the necessary two-thirds majority required for a constitutional amendment, but the fact that the motion was put at all shows the willingness of the Republican leadership to accommodate the Christian right.



1775-76: Jefferson was part of the Virginian state delegation sent to the Second Continental Congress, where he helped draft the Declaration of Independence.

1789: First US secretary of state. Resigned in 1793 over his sympathy for France's revolutionaries.

4 March 1801: Inaugurated as third US president. His presidency saw Louisiana acquired from France and the import of slaves abolished.

Berlusconi party 'linked to Mafia bombings'

Philip Willan in Rome

A FRESH investigation is to target the political sponsors of a Mafia bombing campaign, for which a Florence court convicted 24 mafiosi over the weekend.

Investigators are hunting for the instigators of the terror campaign "in the political and professional circles that were soon to give birth to Forza Italia" — Silvio Berlusconi's centrist political party, founded in November 1993 — according to the leftwing newspaper L'Unita.

On Saturday a Florence court jailed two dozen mafiosi and gave life sentences to 14 of them, including Bernardo Provenzano, a veteran Mafia chieftain who has evaded capture for decades and is believed to be the head of Cosa Nostra.

The mafiosi were convicted of waging a campaign of terror against the Italian state in which 10 people were killed and 93 injured, and Italy's artistic heritage suffered severe damage. The bombings began in May 1993 with an unsuccessful car bomb attack on Maurizio Costanzo, a television personality who had spoken out against the Mafia.

Later that month came bombings in Florence, Rome and Milan. The attacks caused a media sensation because the Mafia had targeted some of Italy's best-known cultural landmarks, the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, two ancient churches in Rome and Milan's museum of modern art.

The campaign continued the following year with an unsuccessful attempt to blow up a Mafia supergrass and a failed bomb attack outside a Rome football stadium.

"It's very important that the sentence recognises the subversive purpose of the attacks," said Danilo Ammannato, a lawyer for the victims. "It means the true brains behind the strategy have still to be discovered. It provides us with a starting point."

Salvatore "Toto" Riina, who was arrested shortly before the terror campaign began, and the Mafia boss Giuseppe Graviano are suspects in the second investigation into the bombings. In their summing up to the jury, the prosecutors described the bombings as "not just a criminal affair, but a criminal page in the history of this country".

According to the Palermo public prosecutor Guido lo Forte, the bombings amounted to a subversive campaign to destabilise the political order and marked a radical departure from Cosa Nostra's traditions.

Mr Lo Forte explained the apparent paradox in an interview published yesterday in the Milan daily Corriere della Sera. He said Mr Riina had told his followers: "We must make war so that we can then dictate the peace."

Cosa Nostra, the paper said, after the collapse of its links with Giulio Andreotti's Christian Democrat faction and a brief flirtation with the Italian Socialist Party, was looking for new allies.

A number of former mafiosi have reportedly told magistrates of contacts between Forza Italia and Cosa Nostra in the run-up to Mr Berlusconi's remarkable election victory in March 1994.

The Florence prosecutors also revealed that two letters threatening further attacks had been sent to newspapers on the day of the Rome and Milan bombings, but had not been adequately evaluated at the time. The letters said the attacks were intended to kill: "We guarantee the victims will be counted in the hundreds."

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News in brief

Cruise tourists' nightmare ends after SOS pleas

A LUXURY Mediterranean cruise that turned into a holiday in hell for 517 tourists was drawing to a premature close yesterday, writes Tom Whitehouse in Moscow. The ship's captain, apparently protesting against unpaid wages, set sail for his home port of Odessa, two weeks before the tour was due to end.

Despite paying more than £1,000 each, the mainly Ukrainian and Russian passengers were not allowed to leave the Taras Shevchenko at its first port stop, Piraeus in Greece. They spent five days confined on board.

On Saturday Turkish coast guards received SOS signals from them as the cruiser entered the Black Sea, but the captain refused to stop.

Yesterday the tourists threw desperate messages in bottles to small boats carrying journalists. "These people have stolen our money. We want our money back," they shouted.

Russian reports said the tour company that organised the cruise had failed to pay the shipping company, which in turn failed to pay the crew.

Death penalty returns to New York state

A FORMER prison guard was sentenced to die by lethal injection for murdering three people in the first death-penalty trial since New York state brought back capital punishment in 1995, writes Mark Tran in New York.

Darrel Harris, who received a medal in 1987 for saving a guard's life in a Brooklyn jail riot, broke down as he was led away. He admitted walking into a social club in December 1996 and shooting three men, two of whom died. He then stabbed a woman to death when he ran out of bullets.

His lawyers pleaded that he was a severely disturbed man who had "snapped". He may wait 10 years on death row while he appeals.

New York reinstated the death penalty when George Pataki was elected governor over Mario Cuomo, an ardent opponent of capital punishment. The last person executed in the state was Eddie Lee Mays in 1963 for killing a woman while robbing a bar.

No vote on genetic curbs

Swiss voters overwhelmingly rejected curbs on genetic engineering in a national referendum. They voted two-to-one against the proposal to ban by constitutional amendment the genetic alteration and patenting of animals.

"There was a lot at stake — the future of Switzerland as a centre of excellence in biomedical research," said Thomas Cueni, secretary-general of the Interpharma industry group. — *Reuters*.

Fighting in Guinea

Ten soldiers were killed in gun battles yesterday in the capital of Guinea Bissau, in West Africa. The Bafata Movement, the main opposition party, said the clash was a "violent pay-back" following the appointment of the new armed forces chief of staff. — *AP*.

NUJ Deputy General Secretary Election
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هكذا من الاصل

صكنا من الاصل

Tensions between South Asia's two new nuclear powers rose another notch after Islamabad accused New Delhi of being behind the Sindh rail bomb. The standoff now looks certain to worsen, with Kashmir the next likely flashpoint



A soldier watches Indian troops from Chakoti on the Pakistani-held side of the Kashmir frontline. Gunfire is exchanged daily along the 500-mile zone where 400,000 troops face each other PHOTOGRAPH: B. K. BANGASH

Train blast fuels war of words

Suzanne Goldenberg
South Asia Correspondent

PAKISTAN yesterday accused India of planting the bomb on a train that killed more than 20 people.

A minister in Islamabad said it was an act of "state terror" intended to punish Pakistan for its nuclear tests.

Reports said up to 26 people were killed and 45 injured when a bomb exploded on the Khyber Mail near Khairpur in the southern province of Sindh yesterday morning.

The train runs from Karachi on the Arabian Sea to Peshawar near Pakistan's frontier with Afghanistan.

The Pakistani information minister, Mushahid Hussain Syed, claimed the blast bore the hallmarks of India's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) spymasters.

India and Pakistan regularly trade accusations about their intelligence services in what, for both sides, has become a ritual response to acts of terror. But Mr Hussain used unusually strong language, forgoing euphemisms — of "anti-Pakistan elements" or "the foreign hand" — to blame New Delhi.

He also linked yesterday's bomb to the war of words since the nuclear tests, especially over the disputed territory of Kashmir, and the ambitions of India's ruling Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

"Pakistan strongly condemns the act of terrorism which was carried out today, the threat posed by India's nuclear tests, and the BJP's threats on Kashmir," Mr Hussain said.

"The hardline elements of the Hindu establishment are fomenting state terrorism through RAW, aimed at destabilising Pakistan.

"We feel they are trying to put pressure on Pakistan after it restored the balance with its nuclear tests."

He told state-controlled Pakistan television that the 4am explosion was caused by a timer device similar to one recovered from a Lahore cinema where three people were killed in a blast on Friday.

But police in Khairpur said the methods were similar to those deployed by Sindhi separatists.

An Indian foreign official almost immediately dismissed Mr Hussain's comments as baseless. But they are certain to add to the rancour between the two countries and fuel fears of a nuclear arms race.

Pakistan and India at the weekend rejected condemnation of their tests by the United Nations Security Council, and Islamabad said it could not be compelled to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty or the Non-Proliferation Treaty.

"The council has ignored the reality on the ground," a Pakistani foreign ministry statement said.

It also tried to use yesterday's bombing to drive home its demand for international mediation on Kashmir — which the Security Council did not endorse.

"The international community has stressed the necessity for a dialogue to remove the root cause of the tension in a nuclearised South Asia. It is also clearly its responsibility to denounce such acts of terrorism which exacerbate tension and enhance acrimony," the statement said.

Amid the fighting talk, Pakistan's prime minister, Nawaz Sharif, renewed an offer to negotiate with the Indian prime minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee. But it is uncertain whether the pair will meet before they attend a regional summit in Sri Lanka next month.

The train bombing follows three separate blasts in the Sindh city of Hyderabad on Saturday and the Lahore cinema explosion.

Friday's bombing was the latest in a series of explosions in Punjab — a mirror image to nearly two dozen bombs in New Delhi last year. Police in both cities have blamed rival intelligence agencies.

Eritreans' joy turns to fear as they await revenge

Each blames the other for starting the bombing raids. Each says the targets were civilians not the military. The truth may be hard to discern but what is certain is that more lives are at stake, writes **David Hirst** in Asmara





Eritreans display wreckage from an Ethiopian MiG shot down after it attacked Asmara airport on Saturday. Above left, the mother and sister of a three-year-old killed during Eritrea's bombing raid on Mekele grieve with other relatives at the funeral PHOTOGRAPHS: SAMI SALLINEN (main) and CORINNE DUFKA

THE churches, lush public gardens and pavement cafes lining the palm-shaded, Italianate boulevards of Eritrea's sun-drenched highland capital were quieter than on a normal Sunday afternoon.

The jubilation that greeted the shooting down of an Ethiopian MiG fighter on Saturday and the capture of its pilot has given way to the sobering fear that further air raids are coming and are likely to be directed at civilian targets.

On Saturday Ethiopia announced it would suspend air raids for 13 hours to allow foreign nationals to be evacuated. A hectic night at Asmara airport saw the departure of about 1,500 people, including 41 Britons, on a dozen planes. Most diplomats have gone with them, either closing their embassies or leaving behind a skeleton staff.

The ceasefire ended yesterday morning. International mediation continued, notably the shuttle diplomacy of the United States under-secretary of state for African affairs, but has yet to yield a breakthrough.

The Eritreans appear to be balking mainly at one aspect of the four-point US plan, which calls on them to withdraw from territory at Badame — the main area of dispute. At a press conference on Saturday the president, Isiyas Afewerki, said he did not yet see much light at the end of the tunnel.

What, in the midst of this deadlock, worries the Asmarans is the Ethiopian interpretation of the air war. They say Eritrea began it on Friday with an air raid on Mekele, the capital of Tigray province, and that the "savage act", in which some 40 civilians died, was designed to "spread terror". Ethiopia was then retaliating when it struck the military wing of Asmara airport.

Eritreans claim — and the facts support them — that Ethiopia struck first and deliberately targeted the civilian, not military, wing of the airport.

The Eritreans add, unofficially, that their retaliatory attack on Mekele targeted the military airport from which Ethiopia's MiGs took off and that the slaughter of civilians was an unfortunate mistake.

Their version is all the more plausible because, given Ethiopia's vastly superior air power, Eritrea has no interest in provoking an air war.

"Blood begets blood," said one of the few remaining diplomats in Asmara, "and we all fear the worst."

But the Ethiopians' motivation is probably less about simple revenge and more about exploiting the one area in which they hold a decisive advantage, and compensating for their setbacks on the ground. For it appears they have been unable to profit from their immense manpower resources — a population of 60 million compared to Eritrea's 3 million.

Once again Ethiopia — as in the 30-year struggle that pitted it against the ultimately victorious Eritrean secessionists — is up against an adversary that compensates for its small size with rapid, vast mobilisation, technical skill and high motivation. Reports from the front suggest the Eritreans inflicted heavy losses on the Ethiopians as they pushed them out of territory they claim as their own; they may also have taken many prisoners.

However, such reports — as well as yesterday's Ethiopian claim to have retaken the frontline town of Zalambesse — are hard to confirm. The Eritrean leadership carries to extraordinary lengths its policy of divulging next to nothing about military operations.

"We will say nothing about our casualties or theirs," said President Afewerki. An official reason for this is that — self-consciously eschewing the often belligerent rhetoric of the other side — Eritrea does not want to inflame the situation.

In most countries perhaps, public opinion would find such secretiveness disconcerting. But here it is part of a longstanding tradition, rooted in the liberation war, which the people accept and even prize. In such a small society, with up to 200,000 now under arms, everyone quickly learns by word of mouth what is going on at the front.

There is also a tradition of "leaving matters to the leadership" which, since the liberation war, has enjoyed public confidence.

Tehran mayor attacks court in corruption trial

Julian Borger
Middle East Correspondent

THE trial of Tehran's mayor for corruption started controversially yesterday in a case which is believed to reflect a power struggle in the Iranian government.

Gholamhossein Karbaschi, who has run the Iranian capital for the past nine years, went on the offensive, denouncing the accusations as fabrications and challenging the court's right to try him.

"I don't accept any of the charges. They are all lies. But even before that, I maintain the argument that the court is not competent to handle the case," he told a packed courtroom at the Imam Khomeini judiciary complex in Tehran.

The judge, Gholamhossein Mohseni-Ejaei, said he regretted having to try a senior manager but warned: "No one is above the law."

Mr Karbaschi, aged 45, is accused of embezzling more than £3 million, receiving bribes and mismanaging public property. His supporters claim that Islamic ultra-conservatives within the government and the judiciary are victimising him for backing reforms championed by President Mohammed Khatami.

The mayor's surprise arrest in April triggered demonstrations which threatened to transform Iran's tense political rivalry into street battles between pro-reform students and Revolutionary Guards.

Mr Karbaschi has been a hate-figure among hardliners since he backed Mr Khatami against a conservative opponent in May 1997 elections.

The start of the trial, adjourned yesterday until Thursday, is a victory for the conservatives. Diplomats in Tehran had predicted that President Khatami's supporters would attempt to have the case postponed indefinitely.

The president's supporters fear that Mr Karbaschi's fall could pave the way for a wider assault on Mr Khatami's reforms, which are intended to dilute the role of Shi'ite clerics in government. Last week Brigadier-General Yahya Rahim Safavi, head of the Revolutionary Guards, said his forces were biding their time before moving against a "third group" of dissidents who had taken advantage of the Khatami thaw to plot against the Islamic republic.

"The Guards ... have identified many of the elements of these groups ... They have left them free to set up their groups and newspapers but we will go after them when the time is ripe," Gen Safavi told the daily Hamshahri newspaper.

Time is frozen on the Kashmir frontline

Suzanne Goldenberg visits Chakoti, in the disputed state, where each side knows the enemy like a brother, nerves fray and familiarity breeds contempt

TWELVE steel helmets; 12 sets of binoculars; and two lowly soldiers in a pit, dutifully pointing a machine-gun towards an Indian position a mile away: this is Chakoti, in Pakistani-held Azad ("Free") Kashmir, where the Pakistani army keeps watch on an enemy.

But the freshly whitewashed bunker, barbed wire glinting after an afternoon shower, also doubles as a pulpit for preaching the gospel on Kashmir according to the Pakistani army.

Islamabad is always trying to attract international attention to Kashmir — infuriating New Delhi, which would rather keep the dispute a private affair between neighbours. The arrival of 52 foreign journalists at Pakistan's forward position along the line of control seems a godsend. Eager not to disappoint those expecting danger, Brigadier Haider Khan calls out, "Watch for snipers," as the journalists file through a sandbag corridor. It opens out to offer a spectacular view of wooded hills, with Indian positions discernible through field glasses.

India and Pakistan have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, making the disputed territory the most likely flashpoint for another war — with the prospect it could involve nuclear weapons.

"Both armies are sitting eyeball-to-eyeball so there are no nukes in this area," Brig Khan says. "If the Indians want us, they are going to have to come into this area and get us."

Such bravado seems lost on the people living below his watching post. In Chakoti village, Kala Khan, a labourer, has lived between the armies for 50 years.

"If either side fires, we are in the middle. They fire by day, they fire by night; they have no timetable," he says. He points to the damaged wall of his tiny hut, which his family of 11 shares with his brother's family. The house was shelled in March.

Mr Khan's brother, Hassandin, interrupts: "We are very happy that the Pakistani government has got a nuclear bomb. They are our enemy," he says, waving an arm towards the hills of India. "Now we know that they are going to die. Two or three bombs and it's all over."

But Kala Khan is unimpressed. "We are in the centre of all this. If there is a bomb, we all die, on both sides."

The 500-mile line of control is a war zone frozen in time. Brig Khan says it has not budged an inch since 1971.

There are 100,000 Indian and 300,000 Pakistani soldiers arrayed along it at such close quarters that their faces become familiar.

Eventually, someone's nerve has got to give — though never a Pakistani's, Brig Khan insists.

Gunfire is exchanged almost every day — and even the lowliest soldier is allowed to open fire. The shooting is usually heavier during the summer "fighting season", when it is used to cover Pakistani militants crossing into Indian-held Kashmir.

Comment

e-mail

Katharine Viner
@Beirut

WE were lying on the beach when we read about the public hangings; sipping Almaza at the Long Beach Club, where you pay £300 a summer to lie on concrete and swim in the pool. We were gazing along the Corniche at the palm trees and the women in bikinis, bangles and full make-up, lamenting a lost age.

Two men, Wissam Issa, 25, and Hassan Abu Jabal, 24, were hanged at 5am in Tabarja town square, north of Beirut, a place you drive past on the way to the nightclubs of Jounieh; 1500 people turned up to watch, but the hangmen, who wore white cloaks and pointed hats, were out of practice. The hinged platform beneath the men's feet didn't drop properly and Issa, who had fainted with fear, had to be pushed off the scaffold.

The dead were left swinging for an hour. The papers printed their broken-necked pictures: wearing sweat-tops, jeans and trainers, they looked like kids.

Their crime was unpremeditated murder: they were robbing a house when the owners came home and Issa, alarmed, shot them both. Abu Jabal ran off with $500 and jewellery; he didn't even fire a gun.

The President, Elias Hrawi, personally signed the death warrants, adding to the quarter of a million bodies of 16 years of civil war. This is a bewildering truth for many in Lebanon who saw him as a modernliser: just two months ago, he was campaigning for civil marriage, an enlightened move to allow marriages between religions — currently forbidden unless one partner converts to the faith of the other.

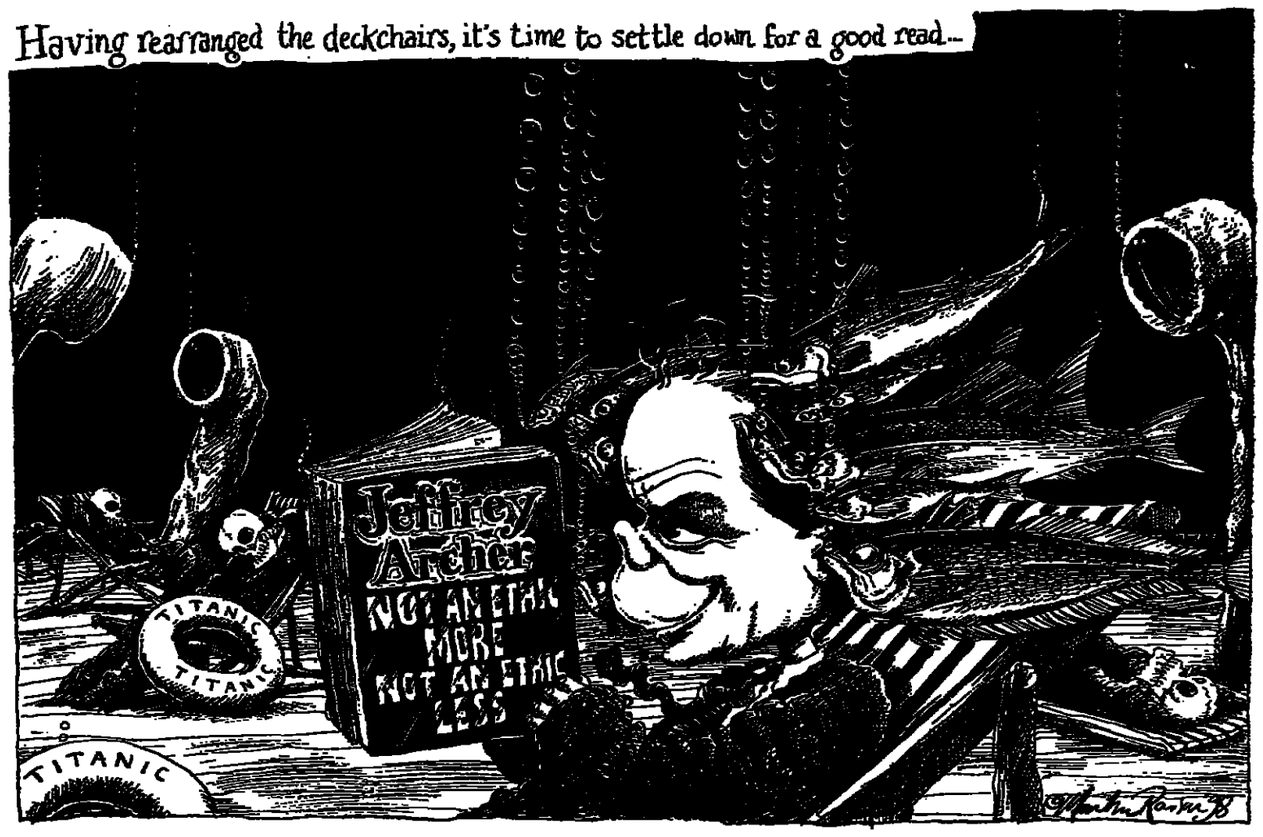
The campaign has been popular, particularly among women and the young; you even see ads saying: "Mendossa Jeans: Yes for Civil Marriage" in the Bekaa Valley. Many think that Hrawi sending two young men to the public gallows makes his rhetoric about a civil society look like a sick joke.

BEIRUTIS are furious: they want to look forward, not back to their notorious war. They've had eight years of peace and find it hard to reconcile their cellphones, Baskin Robbins ice-cream and the world's biggest city centre redevelopment project — £400 million of glamorous hotels, beach clubs and marinas — with the town-square hangings.

Lebanon has always seen itself as the most European of Arab countries; now it's grouped with China, Nigeria and Saudi Arabia as a country which executes its own citizens in public.

Company director Jerir Abu-Shaheen expressed the views of many. "Does a world tourist centre perform public executions?" he wrote in the English-language Daily Star. "The sound of (the men's) gasps as the rope snapped tight will echo as one of the most blood-thirsty moments in Lebanon's history — including the war."

Having rearranged the deckchairs, it's time to settle down for a good read...



We're poor, shabby and unhealthy so we should pay more taxes

Polly Toynbee



THERE is only one show in town, and the grand opening comes next month with the Comprehensive Spending Review. Then we shall know considerably more about what kind of government this is. To govern well is to tax and spend well.

The tidal waves and tiny ripples of public spending spread far and wide. Everyone is affected by the public purse. Last week I listened to an *impromptu impassioned plea* for spending on the arts, as moving and articulate as you could find. The recent director of the Greenwich Theatre, Matthew Francis, was just one of those ripples that never reach anywhere near the Chancellor's mighty desk.

His distinguished theatre, the only one in a huge swathe of south-east London, has just closed. The London Arts Board, facing cuts, let the axe fall on Greenwich and now the theatre is dark and unused. Yet it lies beneath the shadow of the Dome. What would it cost to keep going? A mere £210,000 a year, the rest it earned for itself. Now it doesn't mean the Dome shouldn't be built, but how do you compare the worth of these two?

I don't know how much the Chancellor sees with his own eyes. But within a stone's throw of Downing Street, some psychiatric wards turn away the seriously mad, turfing one insane patient out of a bed to let in another who might or might not be even more of a danger to themselves or others. It's a tough call, selecting the very worst. But how do you compare a theatre to a psychiatric bed? Would you choose a new high-paid cadre of super-teachers, or regional teams of heart surgeons who don't kill babies? Poor pensioners or underground trains?

I was burgled on Friday night, no chance of catching the culprit who took my contact book with a lifetime's invaluable phone numbers: the policeman said there's a backlog months long in processing fingerprints.

By even asking the question, the Chancellor has opened a snake-box because, of course, *there are no sensible answers*. All he can do is demand the money is spent well wherever it's spent, which is only a slightly easier matter. He doesn't start with blank paper but with a history of priorities, expectations, myriad powerful lobbies.

Last week we saw the Iron Chancellor's fist hammering out his golden rule — no current spending unless it's covered by current tax revenue, spread over the economic cycle. He may sit up to his neck in gold now, but he warns that the money's needed when the economy turns down. He is shaking his mailed gauntlet at the last desperate bids of spending ministers. What would you expect him to do but talk prudence at this point?

The Chancellor will try to pull off the magic trick — talking rectitude to please City ears, yet to bring smiles to as many expectant faces as possible. He wants both sets of headlines, tailored for their respective readerships. Of course he does.

He can manage the trick a while longer, as he did at the last budget with tax increases so clever only those who understand the finances of private pensions realise he has taken money from the better off. He has produced some clever but devious rules of his own to prove his prudence, with his largely artificial line between what he calls "capital spending" for "investment" for which borrowing is OK, and "current spending" which must never exceed income from taxation. It shows that he has left much crucial flexibility in his apparently golden rule.

He alone decides what is *good investment* spending and what is bad spending, and it's not just a matter of bricks and mortar versus wages. So his people brief that spending to put the unemployed to work is good investment, even where it may cost more indefinitely. The iron begins to melt a little on close inspection.

EVEN more important, gone is the old rightwing mantra that we must keep spending below 40 per cent of GDP. So long as all the spending is "good" then the *total* doesn't matter. They stress that the Chancellor has never mentioned an overall spending target, which means he could still raise taxes significantly if he wants.

After all, Germany's public spending is 45 per cent of GDP and France's is 50 per cent, while their economies motor far ahead of ours. It may well be that our low spending holds us back.

But raising public spending in devious secretive ways can't be done for long. Take Private Finance Initiatives, about which there is growing concern, especially in the NHS, strongly expressed by the doctors at their recent conference. It is an expensive accounting trick, where current public spending on new hospitals is removed from the books, only to add a far greater burden of debt for our children, a debt they will not be able to control as it will be in private hands, inflated by the need to make profits — neither prudent nor honest.

No, in the end, New Labour will have to come clean about spending. They are in danger of failing to gauge the magnitude of the change in public mood they themselves have created with their powerful talk of inclusiveness, citizenship and community. People now expect the tangible results of those ideas in the public services they use.

Thatcherism really is vanquished in the public mind — yet it lingers on in Labour's more fearful thoughts. For there is nothing more communitarian we do in life than to pay our taxes. People know what is blindingly obvious: we can't have significantly better schools, hospitals and transport to meet the rising standards of the rest of our quality of life without paying for it. Juggling between "capital" and "current" will only take the Chancellor so far.

The Spending Review will no doubt find some cuts — but not many. To be sure we (and France) still spend much more than the rest of Europe on defence, twice what the Germans spend, but even deep cuts there are peanuts.

Nothing will save the government from having to bite the real bullet: taxes must rise or public services and the lives of the poor will continue to decline. Cool or not, we remain a shabby, poverty-wracked, under-educated and unhealthy nation because we are grossly under-taxed.

Time for the New Tories

Peter Preston



JUST a few little words and the difference they portend. "We must fight to make the Scottish parliament a success." One moment the Tories are fearful about the Assembly, prisoners of their own accumulated rhetoric — and the next they are free, dedicated to the coming elections and to helping devolution work. The Leader has spoken.

The weekend words of Young William carry two quite separate resonances. The first is (mostly) for Scotland. It makes the Tories part of the Scottish equation again. If they can get upwards of 15 per cent of the Assembly vote next year, then PR will give them a hand and cards to play in Edinburgh. That's crucial.

A devolved nation which is also a Conservative nation needs policy options beyond the Salmond/Dewar nexus. A nation which chooses to remain within the United Kingdom — if it does — will need a Conservative and Unionist Party in the mix.

The second resonance is much wider. *Simply*: there was contention and a referendum. The Tories lost. Did they glumly refuse to hear the verdict of the people? No, they snapped to attention. They accepted the result, turned turtle, moved on. And if they can do that on devolution, what about Europe? Will Slightly Older William be mouthing a few more little words in 2003?

Events, as they do, sharpen those questions. Mr Hague has not prospered in the polls since he set his face against monetary union. On the contrary, he has slid further towards the oblivion of peripheralisation. Who says Euroscepticism is a magic electoral wand? Not the voters: they, on the latest Guardian count, are beginning to shift towards the EMU camp. Who can tell where *they'll be come the new millennium*, used to dealing in euros day by day as they buy ice creams in Marbella or sell engine parts in Toulouse? And then there is Stephen Dorrell.

Mr Dorrell's departure from the Shadow Cabinet — "to write and think and speak his mind" — was a very small earthquake, even by current Conservative standards. He was the leadership contender who threw the towel in early. He was (the spin doctors said) an invisible spokesman on education. He jumped before he was pushed. So what?

So, on further and better examination, rather more than the Hague acolytes would have us believe. Dorrell is experienced, a notably talented Treasury minister, a health secretary on top of a complex brief. He's the same generation as Tony Blair, and just as "nice" when the sincerity tap's turned on. Nobody, looking at his party lineage, can doubt where he's coming from: the One Nation wing which ruled before the Thatcher clearances.

To that, though, he adds the capacity for original thought. He has a "tune" — the need "to ensure that the country rises to the challenge of the global market place and is willing to earn its place in that market". Ask him for a few descants, and you get a symphony of facts and examples. He writes his own briefs, with a painfully wrinkled brow. Unlike Young William, who seems to learn and parrot them.

FATALLY damaged goods? Maybe. Dorrell was a notably bored and ineffectual heritage secretary. Perhaps there was some of that to his shadow education stint — though what do you say when David Blunkett, piece by piece, has nicked every policy you possessed? And there were one or two gaffes in the last months of John Major, when a prime minister immersed in coded complexities chose him to clarify the ineradicably obscure, then skittered away from the outcome.

But time is a great healer when it comes to real or imagined gaffes. You don't need to think of Stephen Dorrell as a Winston Churchill in the wilderness, nor even as a Heseltine similarly exiled. You need only think of him as a serious, relatively young politician with a safe seat and an extended shelf-life, capable of devising and delivering his own tunes. Then you think of 2003.

There will be a European referendum. If Hague and the No-men win, we're into fascinating territory. It would be the eventual death of the second Blair administration and the foundation of Conservative return. But what about the Yes, which Labour will feel confident about before they think of taking the voting gamble? Are we, in subsequent defeat, to think of the Leader who said No saving his neck with a handful of words?

The day Dorrell quit the front bench he said a number of *interesting things*. "This is the first day of the rest of my life"; "It is powerfully in Britain's interest for the single currency to be a success"; "Labour is frightened, safe and reactive — while William has just been doing the housekeeping." In short: he's not going away, he's looking to a world beyond 2002, and he's an ideas man.

NONE of this makes Dorrell more than a politician to keep your eye on for a while. But it is the first stirring of future choice. Clarke and Heseltine, the natural Tory champions of European realism, may — five years on — look what William would have them be now: the past, not the future. A Conservative Party which has to U-turn again over Europe will be *searching for a younger alternative*. Maybe David Curry; but maybe Dorrell, if he develops a philosophy that sets Europe in a wider context.

Does this matter, so many years and unpredictable twists ahead? Absolutely. A position staked out thus affects thinking now: another factor in Hague's troubled mind. The Leader knows that the year of "housekeeping" is over. "We've done our reorganising. Now we are going to do some attacking." The Jurassic Park socialists of the SNP and the Stalinist place-men of Labour duly got their Glasgow conference lumps on Saturday: "Let's stop fighting the battles of the past." But the great battle which brought to the party to its knees continues.



They assume the Tories, *miraculous survivors*, will be back around 2006

The final question on every Conservative's agenda can be brutally posed. Is this it? Have we blown it for two decades, perhaps for ever? When you talk around, you find despair. But if you talk afterwards — by way of flight correction — to some of Labour's deeper strategists, there the mood (especially as interest rates rise and the economy wobbles) is far, far warier. Two terms in office is the extremity of stated ambition. They assume that the Tories, the miraculous survivors of European politics over centuries, will be back with a shout around 2006. No wild assumption.

The Conservative Party matters because, on its record, it has always mattered. But what sort of party, under what sort of leader? Enter Wee Willie's "fresh, open, involving, listening" lot — the kind of lively minds who know the Eurostar from Thomas the Tank Engine. And now, with Dorrell on board, they also know they will have a choice beyond the buffers.

Endpiece: No bootstraps to pull up

Roy Hattersley



I AM beginning to wonder if I have misjudged New Labour. Ever since the party began to establish an independent identity — certainly not socialist, rarely radical and barely progressive — I have attributed its shortcomings to a severe ideology deficiency. Now I suspect that it suffers from failures of the intellect.

The idea came into my head the other day, when I heard the Prime Minister assert that he totally rejected "the determinist view of politics". The determinist view of politics was succinctly defined in 1976 by Michael Rutter and Nicola Madge, in their work Cycles of Disadvantage, done in the year 22BB. But some ideas which were developed before John Smith's death remain self-evidently true. One of them is the proposition that "the existing framework of society shapes the distribution of wealth and job opportunities".

If you have any doubts, read the National Children's Bureau's study of "the abilities and attainments, behaviour, physical development, health, home environment and family history" of 16,000 children born during the first week of March, 1958.

Last Thursday, as I listened to television arguments about retirement pensions, I offered a silent bet on which of those now 40-year-old adults are likely, in old age, to survive on 10 per cent of average earnings. It will be those who, in childhood, the National Children's Bureau described as "born to fail".

Yet Harriet Harman had a clear and confident view of how responsibility for a comfortable old age should be divided between the individual and the state. We are moving into the era of personal provision. It is the people's "responsibility to pay into the system" and the government's "responsibility to make sure that when they pay in, they get value for money". It was left to Ann Robinson — not the winking television personality, but the director of the National Association of Pension Funds (and, heaven help us, sometime head of policy at the Institute of Directors) to raise questions about families who are too poor to invest and suggest that the state might have to insist on some "redistribution" between contribution and benefits. It is a mad, mad world, my masters.

I do not blame Ms Harman for missing the poverty point. Even if she understood it, she cannot be held responsible for the government's constant failure to meet the needs of the families below the poverty line. The crucial decisions have been taken out of her hands. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown — whatever their other differences — are united by the heroic delusion that people with the will to work can always pull themselves up by the bootstraps.

The choice of metaphorical footwear is important. It is a basic Victorian error which prejudices so much government policy. For the first time since the second world war, ministers make a distinction between the deserving and the undeserving poor. Whatever our backgrounds, we can all — if we really try — rise to a point in society in which we can afford to invest in a pension which keeps us comfortable in old age.

> Progress through life depends on a fair start as well as an open road

The idea that children who go hungry to school are disinclined to learn has never crossed the government's collective mind. Nor have ministers ever pondered why Old Etonians rarely steal car radios. To ask such a question would be to flirt with the idea of determinism.

Paradoxically, a government which rejects the pursuit of equality — in the mistaken belief that it is the same as uniformity — bases its social policy on the fallacy that we possess an equal capacity to improve ourselves. Gordon Brown makes offers to "those who are willing to work" — as if unemployment is the product of personal sloth rather than the result of general economic incompetence. David Blunkett talks of "helping truants to help themselves", in the apparent hope of awakening the spirit of enterprise in the inner cities.

In fact, children stay away from school because they are alienated from a society which — from television advertisements to football admission prices — seems only interested in the welfare of the well-to-do. For them — the disillusioned as well as the dispossessed — equality of opportunity is a cruel joke. The chance to make progress through life depends on a fair start as well as an open road. Meritocracy, in which the Prime Minister believes, offers no hope to the children whose innate merit is held back by everything from having to learn English as a second language to the humiliation of never owning a decent pair of trainers.

There can be no equality of opportunity without the redistribution of income. It was Alfred Marshall, not Karl Marx, who laid down the rule that those who go into the market economy with most come out with even more. This is the first Labour Government which seems ignorant of such elementary truths.

Cynics may say that the government understands these things perfectly well but, having decided to build a land fit for 80 per cent of the population to live in, is willing to accept the continual poverty of the undeserving poor.

The alternative explanation is that, having decided to turn its back on history, New Labour knows nothing of the indisputable truths on which the party was built. Perhaps the government needs a good reading list.

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Tutorial for New Labour

Poor students will be hit

TODAY New Labour MPs have a chance to join with Old Labour members to remind ministers of a principle which both wings endorse: equality of opportunity. Yet today Labour is about to push through a Bill which will seriously reduce opportunities for children from low-income families. Children from poor households have always suffered multiple handicaps. Compared to their middle-class contemporaries, they face a future in which they can expect to earn far less money, occupy much poorer housing, suffer far more serious ill health, and enjoy far less education. Of all these inequalities, education offers the most immediate opportunities for change. Four out of five children from professional homes now go on to higher education but, even though we have moved to a mass higher education system, only one out of five from semi-skilled workers' homes and fewer than one in 10 from unskilled workers' families. The proposals in the higher education bill, which completes its parliamentary passage today, will reduce it even further.

Much of the debate has been diverted by the bill's introduction of tuition fees. Requiring students to pay a contribution towards tuition costs was right for the reasons that the Dearing Committee set out last year: ensuring students repay some of the benefits they have received. Student leaders have been right to press ministers for stronger guarantees that the current proposal — a fee equivalent to one quarter of the average cost — is not the first of a series of steps transferring all tuition costs from taxpayers to students. But in an era of mass higher education — and a reluctance by voters to support higher taxation — asking students to make a 25 per cent contribution to tuition that will raise their earnings by about 25 per cent is fair. We support the principle as long as ministers ensure the extra money raised is invested in higher education. The money is desperately needed by universities, which have seen a 40 per cent reduction in spending per student over the last decade. Without extra investment, standards will be seriously eroded.

Where we disagree with the Government is over its proposals for students from poor families. They will be exempted from the £1,000 tuition fees but lose their current maintenance support. The grants only cover half the cost of maintenance, which means the typical poor student ends up owing £5,000 in student loans at the end of a three-year degree. Under Labour's proposals these students will now face a £10,000 debt. Labour ministers are right when they insist the current evidence on the effects of its proposals is ambivalent. So far school leavers show little sign of being deterred but it is still early days and there is already a worrying decline in the number of mature applicants. Labour is meant to be promoting the concept of life-long learning. Commonsense dictates that doubling debt will deter applicants. Ministers can huff and puff, but they should talk to their new business friends. Price matters. The CBI, eager to raise British skills, dislikes the plan. If poor John falls for low-income Jane, they will jointly face £20,000 of debt before they even begin to think of a mortgage. Labour's proposed loan system is a huge advance on the current system but the package narrows, rather than widens, opportunities.

No one should expect the Government to be diverted from its path at this late stage. To its shame, the Labour conference endorsed the package. But the rebels within Labour's New and Old camps should speak out. Reducing equality of opportunity is a breach of principle which deserves the loudest of protests.

On the hoof

Korea's bovine diplomacy

AFTER PINGPONG diplomacy, now comes bovine diplomacy. Tomorrow the impenetrable Demilitarised Zone between North and South Korea, where so many confrontations have occurred in the past, is scheduled to see a more positive raising of dust when 500 head of cattle are driven over to Pyongyang's side.

The herd is part of a larger donation from Chung Ju-yung, head of the South Korean Hyundai Group (in whose trucks they will presumably cross the DMZ). Mr Chung has got into trouble in the past for visiting the North the long way round via Beijing without a single heifer to accompany him. There is no problem at all now that the South is under the new management of President Kim Dae-jung. Mr Kim is anxious to ease the North towards a soft landing from the economic and political crisis of Kim Il-sungism. He has just started a visit to Washington where he will send a strong signal to Pyongyang by indicating his support for the lifting of US trade sanctions against the North.

Not every international flashpoint may respond so positively to this approach. The art in these matters lies in finding the right way of sending the message and making sure that both sides gain from it. The Chinese choice of pingpong in 1971, which paved the way for Richard Nixon, was brilliant: first, because it seemed like such a sporting gesture to the Americans, and second, because Beijing knew that its national team would still wipe the board. More recently, a US wrestling team played the role of people's diplomats in Tehran. That was also well-judged: wrestling is a good metaphor for the protracted struggle in which the US and Iran have been engaged for two decades: the moral is that even the longest bout must come to an end.

Bovine diplomacy is also based on sound observation. Last autumn Pyongyang's "great leader" Kim Jong-il visited a cattle ranch and gave, in his usual manner, "on-the-spit guidance" on matters which included the nurture of calfs and the planting of acacia trees to provide suitable shade. He is clearly into cattle: other gifts from the South might arouse his suspicion, but he will not regard this one as a Trojan Cow.

Letters to the Editor

What does it mean to be English?

DECCA Aitkenhead's witty and perceptive piece on English identity raises basic social and political questions (I hope the English lose in the World Cup, because I don't like them, June 5).

As she implies, the English have long possessed characteristics about which they could be proud: the engineering skills which are heirs to those which built the ships and railways in the 19th century; professionalism (in medicine, education, the arts); cultural innovation; community solidarity, pluralism and cosmopolitanism. But it has been precisely these qualities which have been subject to malevolent attention from governments since 1979.
Tom Selwyn.
London.

I DON'T think the working class can take all the credit for Morris dancing (bit rural). My cultural identity is more Beatles, Northern Soul, Stone Roses, New Order, Oasis, Verve, etc. Often copied, never bettered, let's face it. English working-class (youth) culture influences the world. Ms Aitkenhead ignores the English working class's greatest cultural gift. Come July, whoever's celebrating winning the World Cup, I hope they remember who started it all.
Michael Lynch.
Brighton.

AT the last census a quarter of the population of Wales, nearly 20 per cent of the population of Ireland and 16 per cent of the population of Scotland lived in England. While London was easily the most cosmopolitan city in Europe.

One reason I like living in London is that I am partly French and nobody insists I have to be particularly anything. Nobody has forced me to recognise St George's day. Encouraging a greater sense of "English identity" is likely to make life a lot less comfortable for the many minorities who live here. Indulging what remains of the English working class over their obsessive, and occasionally violent, attachment to the World Cup may be a small price to pay.
Simon Partridge.
London.

THERE is much that is hard to swallow in contemporary England, not least the curious phenomenon that our country is crammed full of people who have chosen to live here, but can't stop belly-aching how awful it all is.
Stuart Walton.
Brighton.

THE truth is the English were too busy trying to deprive other countries of their cultures to notice they didn't have one of their own. Much like their friends in the north of my country, whose culture consists of marching down a road in a silly hat abusing Catholics, the English mistake zenophobia for a national identity. Come on Tunisia.
Deirdre Murphy.
London.

AS A Belfast-born Anglophile, I was disgusted by Decca Aitkenhead's attack on the English. She would be outraged if her comments were applied to any other nationality or race. I can just imagine her howls of protest if someone wrote about the "unlikeableness" of the Scots, with their dubious dress sense, their excessive drinking, their fifth-rate literature, their constant whining while grasping at subsidies, and, above all, their rubbish football team.
Leo McKinstry.
Essex.

HERE'S hoping for a Ronaldo hat-trick and at least two goal-blasting free-kicks from Roberto Carlos on Wednesday to give it to those smug, self-pitying, mewling jocks where it hurts. Yah boo sucks.
Nick Rider.
London.

SCOTLAND is in the middle of a spate of crimes involving racial attitudes towards Asians — and the English. If the English have an identity crisis, the kind of "in your face" nationalism being displayed by some of my compatriots isn't the kind of identity I, for one, want.
Donald Stewart.
Bridge of Weir, Renfrews.

WOULD your newspaper print any article as vituperative against any other nation (I hope Nigeria/Jamaica/Iran get smashed, because I hate them)?
Steve Toft.
Thieusies, Belgium.

DECCA is wrong about the English cultural tradition. Until the corsets were put on in the Victorian era the English were looked on by the rest of Europe as the most piratical and rowdiest nation in Europe. We also had the best food; French kings employed English chefs. Of course the violent nutters who follow the England football team are a disgrace. But there is one type of English culture omitted in the article which I feel is their moral equivalent; the condescending, self-regarding, middle-class liberal who disdains any English sports team in favour of the opposition.
Tim Chadwick.
London.

PERHAPS Decca Aitkenhead would agree with those citizens of European towns liberated by English soldiers in 1944 and 1945 that more profound characteristics than "a tendency to irony and scepticism" can be found among the English.
David Sutherland.
Siddington, Glos.

DECCA Aitkenhead doesn't appear to have visited any part of England that I've seen during the past 10 years. I assume she has based her conclusions on the English Guardian journalists she has contact with. At last what you do with your spare time has been revealed. Between telling bad jokes and doing the Time Warp, you are ironically sipping Chablis, and sceptically booking opera tickets through telesales firms. You really ought to get out more and have fun like everyone else.
Duncan Hurwood.
Hove, East Sussex.

IF WE English don't have a distinctive cultural identity, what is there to dislike?
Sophy Heseltine.
Totnes, Devon.

NO English culture? Decca Aitkenhead mind your language.
Peter Flint.
Doncaster.



Welsh lesson

YOU are right: Americans would benefit from having a growing number of bilingual youngsters (Leader, June 4).

But language planning in education needs real commitment and high-quality teaching. If young Hispano-Americans have fallen between two linguistic stools, it is probably inadequate funding and a lack of conviction that are to blame.

In the week that Californians ended their 30-year experiment, an Institute of Welsh Affairs report (A Competitive Edge) found that Welsh-medium secondary schools in English-speaking South Wales score better than their English-medium equivalents on every measure, including the ratings for teaching English and modern languages.

Unlike Spanish, of course, Welsh is not a world language. But applied with conviction, bilingual education could serve the the US melting pot as effectively as it does the emerging regions of Europe.
Eurof Thomas.
London.

Grant aid

YOU were wrong to imply (Labour left in grants revolt, June 5) that the Labour rebels who will vote against the Government's plans to abolish student grants and introduce tuition fees in higher education will be "on the same side as the Tories".

The Labour rebels will be on the side of students, lecturers and all those who want access to higher education to be open to all, regardless of background or income. The Tories on the other hand, are responsible for creating the current funding crisis in higher education and beginning the attacks on students' living standards. That places them on the side of the Government, regardless of the tactics that will lead them to vote against the higher education bill this week.
Carolyne Culver.
National executive committee, National Union of Students.

Please include a full postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a daytime telephone number. The Country Diary is on page 15.

Straw defends liberties record

RICHARD Norton-Taylor (Kafka lives in the EU, June 4) plumbs new depths of paranoia. Given the scale of the problem of organised crime and international terrorism, we have to co-operate with other EU countries and to extend that co-operation to central and eastern Europe and beyond. Organised crime is a global industry. There is nothing secret or sinister about what we are doing. I make formal reports to Parliament about proceedings in the Justice and Home Affairs councils and my officials regularly brief the media.

So what are these so-called "unacceptable threats to civil liberties?" At the meeting of the EU's justice and home affairs ministers which I chaired last week, we held an open debate to which members of the public and the media were invited on the subject of organised crime. There are no "unaccountable committees": preparatory work by officials is very clearly under the authority of the Council of Ministers. When the Europol Convention comes into force later this year a range of accountability mechanisms — to the Council, to national courts, to an independent data protection authority — will apply to the new organisation.

As for the complaint that matters are "nodded through", this Council works by unanimity, so it has to distinguish between items on which all member states are agreed ("A points") and others on which a discussion is needed. All items are subject to very careful consideration for months and in many cases for years.

It is easy to make jibes about the jargon of any organisation. "K4" is — very prosaically — the article in the treaty which provides for a co-ordinating committee of senior officials. And what better name for a funding programme for action against organised crime than "Falcone" — commemorating a brave Italian judge callously murdered by the Mafia?

I am satisfied that the measures we have agreed during the UK Presidency — including the Falcone programme, a new judicial network and the pre-accession pact with the countries of central and eastern Europe and Cyprus — have made a real contribution to protecting our citizens, without in any way endangering their liberties.
Jack Straw.
Home Secretary.

TV missionary

JOHN Birt's achievements are legion but they do not include coining the phrase "mission to explain", as Matthew Engel asserts (News from nowhere, June 6). The words were first used by Peter Jay at a public meeting in Croydon in 1980 when, as chairman of TV-am, he was pitching for ITV's new breakfast franchise. Five years earlier Jay and Birt had jointly written some articles for the Times, advocating a fresh approach to TV news that would place a higher priority on interpreting issues than on dramatic visual images; but the words "mission to explain" did not occur in them.
Michael Leapman.
London.

Charmed circle set to benefit from fast Channel rail link

THERE is something John Prescott can do to resolve the Channel tunnel link funding problem (Prescott saves Channel link, June 4). In the integrated transport white paper the Government should signal its intention to act with its EU partners to remove the VAT exemption on aviation fuel. This would create a level playing field between rail and air, transforming revenue prospects and thus the attractions of the link to private funders. The environmental case for this is overwhelming.

But £300m would also fund routes for "piggy-back" operation (road-truck bodies on rail cars) between the Channel tunnel and all UK urban centres. This would increase rail's market share of unitised freight from 9 per cent to 32 per cent and remove 1.2 million trucks per year from British roads. This nationwide benefit is surely a more appropriate case for application of public funds than the marginal convenience of passengers from the London area.
Alan Wenban-Smith.
Birmingham.

BUILDING the international rail station at Ebbsfleet never made any sense in transport terms when Stratford and its large derelict rail yards and ready workforce were just waiting across the Thames. It makes even less sense now that Ebbsfleet is set to become a park-and-ride station so that businessmen can get to the continent 15 minutes quicker.

The decision to site the station at Ebbsfleet came about after lobbying on behalf of the owners of the site, Blue Circle Industries. Blue Circle owns the Ebbsfleet Valley and large areas around it amounting to about 1,500 acres. Siting the international station at Ebbsfleet is providing the rationale for massive housing and industrial development on this land amounting to some 1,500 houses and 70,000 jobs. The land has been described as "brownfield" to justify this massive development but the majority is agricultural land and marshland.
Ron Kipps.
Dartford, Kent.

THE German rail crash might raise a few questions about the need for our own high-speed rail link. This will cut just half an hour off the present journey time. For this, whole communities will be shattered, the countryside ravaged. Hands up all those who would prefer to dawdle through the Kent countryside.
Graham Seal.
Penzance, Cornwall.

BEFORE anyone gets carried away about rail safety can I refer to the EU road death statistics? Across the EU in 1995 (the latest year available) 44,195 people were killed — 121 *per day*.
David Reed.
London.

Afghan earthquake

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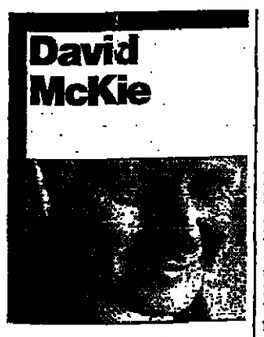
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Put a sock in it



David McKie

IN A WEEK of peculiar stories there was nothing last week to touch the case of two gay lovers from Southport who enticed 15,000 people into parting with pairs of socks. "They were everywhere and anywhere," Det Sgt John Belger said of these socks, describing how he had to step through an 18-inch carpet of socks into the two men's flat. "They were all over the furniture, hanging from lampshades and even in the microwave, frying pan and cooker. It was like there had been an explosion in a sock factory and socks had blown all over the place."

What this did for the men is clear enough: Judge David Maddsion jailed them for 18 months. What it did for the image of socks is another matter. The circumstances may not have been prepossessing, but it must be good news for the hosiery industry that somebody, somewhere, finds socks exciting. Shoes and feet, certainly; stockings also (in olden days, a glimpse of stocking was looked on as something shocking); but never before, in my recollection, socks. I had hoped to check the literature for previous evidence of socks as a fetish, but there doesn't seem to be any. The London Library catalogue offers a history of hosiery, but someone has taken it out. Historians of fashion largely ignore them. They have page after page on the furbelow, the cotehardie or the gaiter, but barely a line on the sock. True, I did find a picture in an old book on costume of a Saxon wearing his sock, or *socca*, outside his stocking but inside his shoe. He was thuggish and unprepossessing, however, adding little allure to the product.

By its nature the average sock is condemned to a life of obscurity. It is worn by a man in trousers, which means it spends most of its life half concealed by his trousers and half by his shoes. Because they're on show, trousers and shoes have evolved through various stages of fashion, but socks, being largely concealed, are much as they've always been. Except that they're shorter. Where they used to climb up the calf and be held in place by some device like a garter, most of them nowadays rise only inches above the shoe. What holds them in place is either elastic, which constricts and leaves patterns on legs at bedtime, or faith, in which case they crinkle around the ankle. But even in an erotic age, their sex appeal remains minimal. The Wonderbra, yes; the Wondersock, never.

FAMOUS shoe collectors are legion: Imelda Marcos of course, but also, I seem to remember, Jackie Kennedy. Apart from the Southport Two, however, I have never heard of collectors of socks. Even more striking is the absence of socks from poetry, where feet and shoes abound. You have only to substitute "sock" in a poem under review to see why this has occurred.

And did those feet, in ancient time, walk upon England's mountains green? Blake inquires. If they did, it's a pretty sure bet that they weren't wearing socks.

Her feet beneath her petticoat, Sir John Suckling exults, *like little mice, stole in and out, as if they feared the light.* No suggestion of socks there either.

The same goes for shoes. *Slowly, silently, now the Moon/Walks the night in her silver shoon* (Walter de la Mare.) For a sock to intrude would be bathos. Readers may wish to point out that Milton, when he wrote L'Allegro, put a sock in it:

Then to the well-trod stage anon,
If Jonson's learned sock be on,
Or sweetest Shakespeare, Fancy's child,
Warble his native wood-notes wild.

This only confirms my thesis. The sock of which Milton wrote was a kind of low shoe worn by actors involved in the kind of comedies written by Jonson. To catch the eye of a poet, a sock needs to be a shoe.

Socks do better in politics. Ian Paisley calls the Pope "Old Red Socks". Dennis Skinner's socks have given harmless pleasure to generations of parliamentary sketchwriters since their repertoire has a vividness which the rest of his uniform lacks. The explanation here, I suspect, is that since politicians spend so much time sitting on benches, often with legs folded over each other, their socks are better displayed than those of the commonalty — though they're all too often accompanied, it has to be said, by slices of pallid and pimply leg.

The other curious feature of the Southport affair is that on Det Sgt Belger's arithmetic, 10,000 pairs of used socks were found in the flat. Given the normal rate of divorce among pairs of socks, it was no mean achievement to keep them together — though it helps, perhaps, if you never wash them. And perhaps it can also be said of fetishists' socks that those that play together, stay together.



Family matters . . . Kendal with (from left) Jennifer, Laura Liddell and Felicity; and (below) on the set of *Shakespeare Wallah* MAIN PHOTO: MARK ELLIDGE

Geoffrey Kendal

Everyman's Shakespeare



GEOFFREY KENDAL, who has died aged 88, was born Geoffrey Bragg in the Cumbrian town of Kendal, but is known best as the Shakespeare Wallah, a name combining his two life-long and closely linked passions: the plays of Shakespeare and India. Another passion, to be sure, was his family; made up of three remarkable actresses who became his principal players and with whom he moved over the sub-continent and beyond: Laura Liddell, his wife, and Jennifer and Felicity, his daughters.

Together they made up the Shakespeareana Company, adding other actors as they went along, both English and Indian (including Shashi Kapoor, who later married the elder daughter Jennifer). Ask any educated Indian over the age of 40 where he or she first heard Shakespeare's lines and the answer is almost always the same — from one of the makeshift stages on which the troupe appeared in the 1940s and 1950s up, down and across India.

The first English people I ever knew were the Kendals; they became my first English friends. This was in Bombay in the early 1960s, and I met them because they were Shashi Kapoor's family. Ismail Merchant and I described their adventures in *Shakespeare Wallah*, our second film, though that melancholy story was not the Kendals' story, as Geoffrey and Laura were quick to point out. Their adventures in India, beginning at the time of independence, had been a romantic dream come true for them.

Making *Shakespeare Wallah* was sometimes distasteful for the older Kendals. It was too close to their own experience for comfort, yet far enough away to seem to them at times a kind of lie. The premise of the film appeared to the Kendals to be the negation of everything they had worked for for so long. They looked upon the Indian part of their career as a triumph, and expected the film to be an affirmation of this (to them) wonderful life of actors on tour.

But the premise of *Shakespeare Wallah* was based on the failure of the Buckingham Players, as they were called in the film, to hold their audiences against the tides of modernisation sweeping over India (and also threatening the English language). The Kendals knew this was happening to them too — or would soon happen. So they felt uncomfortable, were hard put sometimes even to bring out their dialogue, which seemed to give utterance to thoughts which were at variance with everything they believed.

It did not help that the stuff of their lives was being used in order to create a drama symbolic of a moment in history, or that they stood as an embodiment of all things English — then in the process of being cast aside.

The Kendals were also my introduction to the world of the English stage in all its crotchety splendour. Geoffrey Kendal — a wandering player king, irascible and mercurial — was the strolling embodiment, with his family, of this great tradition. They carried the English stage to the far corners of the empire — some very far and dusty corners indeed.

I was too wet behind the ears then to connect Geoffrey Kendal to any sort of tradition or to see how that might serve me in the future. He knew we did not speak the same language and he let me know how he despised the cinema — that the cinema was his enemy, as he wrote later, causing theatres to be empty and tours to be cancelled.

Kendal sometimes spoke to me in a way no one else ever had. Indeed, I'm not sure he would be happy to know I'm writing this obituary. He gave way to terrible rages on the set of *Shakespeare Wallah*, but his daughters said it was all just acting and to pay no attention. One night we worked until after midnight, and when he was finally released and was being driven home, he sat back in the seat and said icily to me as I stood at his window apologising that, naturally, he would never see me again. I believed him and ran after the car for a few paces until his daughter Jennifer pulled me back laughing and saying, "It's just a bluff, you fool, can't you see?"

Another time he chased the stills photographer all around the set, threatening to smash his camera, because he had dared to take a picture of him while he was cat-napping. But his tirades prepared me for much worse ones in the years to come from other English actors, far away from India.

Later he mellowed towards *Shakespeare Wallah*, finding it ironic, he said, "that, in the whirligig of time, it was the despised cinema that told the world of my existence and to a certain extent of my fight."

His fight — always begging, borrowing, stealing — had been to be true to his first love, the theatre. He wrote: "The theatre is female, and like all females, she will not be trifled with. She must be grasped with both hands and given one's whole self, body and soul, if she is to be a proper mate. She must not be dallied with or neglected or flirted with, or she will bite, and that bite will never heal."

To this day I cannot watch a performance of *Othello* or *Twelfth Night* or *Antony and Cleopatra* and not see Geoffrey and Laura Kendal and hear their voices, which after nearly four decades are as distinct as the first time I heard them on our *Shakespeare Wallah* stages in Simla, Kasauli and Alwar — so much so that the modern interpreters of the Kendals' great parts seem, to my ear, to be doing something wrong.

Come, come, and sit you down;
you shall not budge;
You go not till I set you up a glass
Where you may see the inmost part of you.

James Ivory

Geoffrey Kendal, actor, born September 7, 1909; died May 14, 1998

A player of dignity and skill

IF *Shakespeare Wallah* is still among the most popular of all the films produced by Ismail Merchant and directed by James Ivory, it is at least partly because of the authentic performance of Geoffrey Kendal as the old style actor-manager travelling round India — sometimes uncomfortably, sometimes sleeping on station platforms — dispensing Shakespeare and Sheridan to audiences less and less anxious to make English culture their own.

The product of personal experience, the part suited him admirably and he played it to perfection. Required to seem a tiny bit of a ham, he reminded one of a lesser Donald Wolfit, determined that audiences, who included maharajas as well as the poor, should "sit upon the ground and hear sad stories of the death of kings". The troupe seem pathetic in some ways but maintain the dignity that allows the film, beautifully written by Ruth Prawer Jhabvala, some of its most moving moments.

Ivory based it on the diary written by Kendal for a few years after 1947. Kendal was essentially a player and producer of the theatrical repertory who knew his stuff and, without being a star, strutted the stage with dignity and skill.

There could not be a better epitaph than *Shakespeare Wallah*, which, if it wasn't really him, got near enough to make us admire both his art and his tenacity.

Derek Malcolm

Sam Yorty

LA law and order

EVEN after his death at the age of 88, the US media were still using the term "colourful" to describe the former mayor of Los Angeles, Sam Yorty. In fact, he was a red-baiting racist and political turncoat, who nevertheless managed to win three terms in city hall. In the end his nemesis, the city's first black mayor, Tom Bradley, exposed Yorty's reactionary blusterings, replaced him as mayor in 1973, beat his incumbency record with four terms and went on to host the 1984 Olympic Games.

Yorty held a grudge about this to the end of his days, complaining in an interview a few months ago that although he had created a city fit for the Olympics (conveniently ignoring the 1932 LA Games), Bradley had excluded him from the organising committee. Bradley's verdict on his predecessor was equally unforgiving: "He integrated the rubbish," he said in a reference to a Yorty decision to abolish separate garbage re-cycling collections.

Bradley's name now adorns several city buildings and an airport terminal, but Yorty has only one room in the mammoth convention hall he had built in the city centre. Although he presided over construction of the (not very good) LA zoo and the music centre, his legacy was finally more embarrassing than honourable.

Yorty was mayor from 1961-73. This included the 1965 Watts race riots, after which he was censured by a Washington senate inquiry for his lack of knowledge of LA's black core. His trips abroad, ostensibly to boost foreign trade, were more numerous than his visits to his own inner city, and in one three-year period he was abroad for almost one third of that time. His travels created the joke that LA was America's only city with a foreign policy.

As presently one of the most polyglot cities in the world, it is difficult to recall that when Yorty arrived in LA as a young man, it was regarded as the last bastion of white America. Like most early immigrants, he came from the mid-west, the son of an Irish mother and Dutch father. Like many of his peers, he could never accept the city's dramatic demographic transformation during and after the second world war.

But he began as a left-liberal Democrat, and was elected to the state assembly at 27, writing to his father that he would "rather make a speech than eat." In 1950 he moved on to the US Congress but gave it up in 1954 to run for the US Senate. He lost.

This and other set-backs changed his political attitude. He had already set up a Californian Un-American Activities Committee, realising that the cold war offered rich political pickings — on the anti-left side. In 1960 he endorsed Nixon over Kennedy for the presidency. Then, while still nominally a Democrat, he won the mayoralty. Soon he was nicknamed Saigon Sam for his hawkish views on the Vietnam war and his indifference to LA's simmering problems.



Yorty . . . racist bluster

It was in 1969 that the city saw how "colourful" he really was. Forced into a run-off against Bradley, Yorty ran a campaign that would not have been out of place in Mississippi. He talked of a "black bloc vote" and rallied against left-wingers and "their mercenaries" (blacks) who would "take over" city hall. His stoking of the racial embers brought him victory but it was his last time in office. In 1973, when he exploited racism again but lost to Bradley, the latter called his campaign "the most scurrilous racist appeal I have ever seen in this city" — and Bradley was one of its first black policemen.

In 1981, coming out at last as a Republican, Yorty had one last attempt at city hall at the age of 72. He softened the racist rhetoric, realising that it was no longer a political advantage, but he lost. Yet even in retirement, he could not leave race alone. He continued his agitations, claiming in the 1990s that "black racists" were trying to oust "our white police chief" Daryl Gates — the man held responsible for permitting the 1992 racial disturbances to become a city-wide riot that killed 50 people.

Christopher Reed

Samuel William Yorty, politician, born October 1, 1909; died June 5, 1998

A Country Diary

THE HOWGILL FELLS: You may see other walkers mid-week in the southern Howgills, approached from around Sedbergh, but not in the northern half, south from the Tebay to Kirkby Stephen road. Even better, you can still walk on grass in these lonely hills. The bird-song, too, can be delightful — most often, curlew, plover and skylark, sometimes redshank. On a recent sunny, but pleasantly fresh, day, we did one of the best rounds in these parts — the circumnavigation of Weasdale by way of Hooksey, Randygill Top and Green Bell. Apart from one steepish bit, it is six miles or so of easy going — an ideal round for octogenarians with foot problems. If you go anti-clockwise, you go up the steepish bit but you finish down the lovely slopes of Green Bell — the easiest finish to any mountain walk I know. About 200 feet down the slope of Green Bell to the north-east is the source, near an old sheepfold, of the tortuous River Lune. Even more interesting was the discovery that tens of thousands of some sort of caterpillar were scurrying around where we were seated on the top of Stockless, while, a couple of hundred yards away, several thousand seagulls were devouring their companions. But this could not distract us from the superb view of the Lakeland fells, several of the highest Yorkshire hills and the prominent limestone "clouds" on Wild Boar Fell. If you seek quietude in the hills this is a likely place to try.

A HARRY GRIFFIN

Letter

Jenny Stolzenberg writes: I had the magical good fortune of an all too brief encounter with Sam Aaronvitch *(Obituary, June 4)*. Just two years ago I found myself in the same group as him — walking *in the French Alps. He was 76* at the time. I remember him eating his breakfast speedily every morning so that before meeting for the day's long walk he could rush to the local village shop and buy any available newspapers — usually Le Monde and Der Zeit. At the first rest-place up the mountain, while everyone else collapsed from the hot, sweaty climb, he would devour the day's news. He would then share it with the wonderful intensity, passion and fervour that he had for life and for living. He was very clever, terribly modest, and often amusingly self-effacing.

Birthdays

Colin Baker, actor, 55; **Sir William Barlow**, engineer, 74; **Barbara Bush**, former US First Lady, 73; **Lindka Cierach**, fashion designer, 46; **Michael Codron**, theatrical producer, 68; **Prof Alice Coleman**, geographer and urban planner, 75; **Prof Francis Crick**, biologist, physicist, DNA discoverer, 82; **Julie Driscoll**, singer, 51; **Helen Fraser**, managing director, Penguin Viking, 49; **Gwen Harwood**, poet, 78; **Mick Hucknall**, pop singer, 38; **Ray Illingworth**, cricketer, 66; **Prof Sir Michael Levey**, art historian, 81; **Lady Shirley Littler**, chairman, the Gaming Board, 66; **Millicent Martin**, actress, 64; **Prof Terence Morris**, criminologist, 67; **Sir Ian Morrow**, former chairman, MAI, 66; **Tony Mottram**, tennis player, 78; **Doug Mountjoy**, snooker player, 56; **Alison Moyet**, rock singer, 37; **Brig Gael Ramsey**, director, National Centre for Leadership, 56; **Nick Rhodes**, rock keyboard player, 36; **Joan Rivers**, entertainer, 65; **Nancy Sinatra**, 58; **Norma Shaw**, bowler, 61; **Dr Robert Stevens**, master, Pembroke College, Oxford, 65; **Martin Taylor**, chief executive, Barclays Bank, 46; **Marjorie Thompson**, director, Cause Connection, 41; **Derek Underwood**, cricketer, 51; **Dame Anne Warburton**, Bosnia *war-crimes investigator*, 71.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

IN PASS Notes on Roedean, page 3, G2, June 4, we said the school was 100 years old this year. The building that it occupies is 100 years old. The school was started in Brighton in 1885. We said the annual fee was *£4,325*. It is £14,325. We said that a Roedean girl had only a 78 per cent chance of achieving five or more GCSE passes. Of girls in the upper 5th, the GCSE year, 100 per cent gained five or more passes last year. Many girls took eight or nine subjects and occasional failures brought the overall pass rate down to 98.5 per cent.

THE TWO people in a picture on page 17, June 5, accompanying a story headed, Top court spurns appeal on behalf of Stalin's killer, were not Joseph Stalin and Nicolai Yezhov. They were Stalin and his war commissar, Voroshilov.

WE REFERRED to Don Touhig (Lab/Co-op, Islwyn) as Doug in our parliamentary sketch, page 2, June 5. Sorry. In the same sketch the name of the mite which is attacking honey bees in the UK was given as Varrao Jacobsoni. The correct name is Varroa jacobsoni. Species names have the second half of the *name in lower case.*

SATURDAY'S prize crossword, page 12, gave two incomplete clues. Clue 15 across should have read "Herb loves to embrace young Lear" (7) and clue 1 down should have been "Seat of emotion about to loan these out and expire" (7,4,4). Apologies.

It is the policy of the Guardian to correct errors as soon as possible. Please quote date and page number. Readers may contact the office of the Readers' Editor by telephoning 0171 239 9589 between 11am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. Surface mail should be sent to Readers' Editor, The Guardian, 119, Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. Fax: 0171 239 9897. E-mail: reader@guardian.co.uk

Death Notices

GROAK. It is with great sadness that the family of Steven Groak announce his unexpected death on Wednesday 3rd June 1998.

In Memoriam

EAVES. George, 8.6.21 - 16.12.97. Bon voyage to a dear husband, father and grandfather. Remembered with love and pride on his birthday.

SKILBECK. Ralph F. W. 21 October 1942 to 8 June 1988. Remembered with love.

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Message from the Valleys, page 12

Executive Financial Editor: Ben Clissitt
Financial Editor: Alex Brummer
Telephone: 0171-239-9610
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FinanceGuardian



One man and his dog . . . They were at this weekend's Miners' Gala in Cardiff for past and present miners, families and friends PHOTOGRAPH: JEFF MORGAN

Power firms back coal

Celia Weston
Industrial Correspondent

MINISTERS will announce this week that the big three power generators have agreed to new coal supply contracts to help secure the future of the coal industry and safeguard thousands of miners' jobs.

The deal, under which National Power, PowerGen and Eastern agree to buy up to 25 million tonnes of coal in each of the next five years, is to be announced as part of a package of measures brokered by the Cabinet subcommittee on energy policy which is chaired by Gordon Brown and led by Paymaster-General Geoffrey Robinson.

Ministers at the Treasury and the Department of Trade and Industry — which has been somewhat sidelined in the recent policy process — will be hoping the package is enough to postpone any further energy policy crises until after the next election, even if it does not save all of the remaining deep-mine collieries.

Senior power industry sources said last night that ministers are expected to confirm that, as part of the package, a limited ban on new gas-fired power stations will continue for the five years of the coal contracts. The ban would not necessarily be implemented through the mechanism currently used of refusing planning permission.

But to counter the ban's effect of suspending competition for generators, ministers have demanded that the big three power companies agree to deliver price cuts in real terms to consumers over the five-year period.

The sources believe that ministers have decided to force the generators to sell off additional coal-fired power stations to rivals as a way to boost competition and demand for coal.

This so-called divestment option would be the second time generators have been forced to sell rather than close down coal-fired stations. The first time, in 1994, created Eastern as a third English and Welsh generator.

Revelations about the Government's intentions come hard on the heels of last week's publication by electricity industry watchdog Stephen Littlechild of proposals for radical reform of wholesale electricity trading — a development that would mean the *de facto* abolition of the present system, known as the Pool.

The announcement that ministers believe they have squared the circle to save the coal industry, boost competition and cut prices will come after MPs on the Commons trade and industry select committee on Tuesday publish the results of their inquiry into energy policy.

The Labour-controlled committee is expected to be strongly critical of the way ministers seemed to have been taken by surprise by the coal and energy policy crisis and forced to create policy on the hoof.

It will detail the factors MPs believe the Government should take into account when considering the future of the coal industry, not the least of which is guaranteeing a mix of fuel supply sources into the next century.

But the Government is understood to recognise that central to any long-term guarantee of fuel diversity is the radical restructuring of electricity trading to boost supply competition and help drive down prices for consumers.

Critics of the present system argue that it is the pricing mechanisms in the Pool that opened the door to gas-fired generation and began to force coal out.

Economics Notebook

Energy market needs sharp jolt

Victor Keegan

THERE is no greater monument to the failure of one of the bastions of privatisation than Britain's shambolic energy market. One hesitates even to use the word "market" for fear of offending under the Trades Descriptions Act.

Privatisation was not just about ownership — it was supposed to introduce competition as well. But the electricity market has become rigged beyond belief. The chief victims are the coal industry — which is being discriminated against savagely — and the consumer, whose electricity bills should be benefiting more from lower oil prices.

The time for nostalgia about the coal industry — which employs fewer than 13,000 people, compared with almost a million at its peak — is long gone. What is at issue is whether it deserves a fair chance.

At present it has to carry four severe handicaps (and that is ignoring the 20 per cent overvaluation of the pound, which diminishes its international competitiveness).

First, when electricity is needed, nuclear power as "base load" has the first bite because once a reactor is switched on it cannot easily be turned off.

Second, electricity is then taken from France under a bizarre contract drawn up by the Mad Hatter under which we buy French power at top prices with terms which make the traffic one-way. (Would you believe it, if we export to France, it has the right to export the same amount back?)

Third, there is built-in preference for gas-fired power stations which have bought their fuel on long-term contracts that they have to pay for whether they use the gas or not. So coal is forced into the role of residual fuel when nuclear and gas have had their fill. Fourth, it has to compete with state-subsidised coal from Europe.

The market is rigged not only structurally but operationally as well through the "pool" system in which the three big generators set a wholesale price for selling electricity to the pool knowing that they will all receive the top price of the day.

BRITISH Energy (the nuclear generator which is now the biggest producer) therefore can bid zero (enough to be part of the bidding process), knowing that it will receive the top price of the day even though it ought to receive less because its output is taken automatically and is riskless.

The Government is tackling a problem which the Conservatives did not admit to. The Byzantine complexities of the electricity pool were never going to be top of Tony Blair's agenda. But when RJB Mining, the private coal producer, put a pistol to the Government's head, it was forced to act.

The company warned that gas-fired capacity would oust coal from this rigged market when present contracts ended, within a month putting 5,000 mining jobs at risk. MPs of all parties were lobbied successfully and the question raised: Does Tony Blair want to go down in history as the man who finally killed the coal industry? The answer was No and the problem was lobbed into the hands of the Government's Mr Fixit, Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster-General, whose career prospects might be salvaged through an effective solution.

To its credit, the Robinson team is trying to solve the short-term problem within a long-term context — like what would happen if the present scenario continued with imported gas rushing in to replace coal and, if no new nuclear stations are built, replacing nuclear supplies as well. Gas could end up with 80 or 90 per cent of all energy supplies.

You do not have to swallow government forecasts that all gas supplies could be imported by 2020 to realise that the prospect of having most of our supplies dependent on maverick countries like Algeria and disaffected parts of the former Soviet empire raises a serious strategic problem.

THE answer to the long-term problem (and conveniently to the short-term one also) is diversity, which even the gas industry finds hard to argue against. A solution is emerging which would deliver fuel diversity based on gas taking about 50 per cent of the market, leaving nuclear with 30 per cent and coal with 20 per cent.

The catalyst of change will be drastic reforms to the electricity pool (some of which were outlined last week by the industry regulator). The big three generators will be forced to sell some of their coal-fired capacity (but less than the 20 per cent mooted) and stopped from entering into any new contracts for gas-fired stations. They will be required to extend some of their present supply contracts with the coal industry for another five years but geared to falling prices (linked to a formula of RPI minus two percentage points or more).

This may offset some of the trenchant criticism made by David Currie of the London Business School that extension of the moratorium on gas-fired stations would only buttress the market of the three big generators and lead to higher prices. His solution is to break up the oligopoly by introducing real competition even if the coal industry has to be given a brief subsidy while the complicated exercise takes place. None of this will guarantee a market for deep-mined coal if it cannot compete with world prices. But there will at least be a base to take advantage of future changes in the market place, while Labour continues with its unlikely role: cleaning up after the privatisation horses have passed by.

Celtic's saviour tipped for grand finale revamp

Lisa Buckingham and Julia Finch

FERGUS McCann, chairman and chief executive of Celtic Football Club, is understood to be planning a revamp of the boardroom in preparation for selling his controlling 51 per cent shareholding.

Sources close to the AIM-listed club say he will use the three months between Celtic's financial year-end on June 30 and the September annual meeting to stand down.

It is understood that Brian Quinn, a former Bank of England executive and non-executive chairman of Celtic's banker, Nomura Bank International, will become non-executive chairman of the club. He is a non-executive director, alongside former BAT tobacco chief Sir Patrick Sheehy.

Mr McCann is expected also to install his ally Jock Brown as chief executive. Mr Brown, a former football commentator and brother of the Scottish national team coach Craig Brown, is general manager at Celtic Park, where he has drawn hostility from many of the club's supporters.

They blame him for the departure of star players and team manager Wim Jansen only two days after the team won the Scottish League Championship for the first time in 10 years.

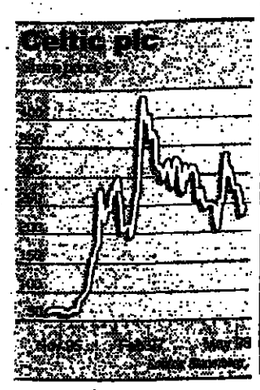
The boardroom reshuffle at Celtic comes amid similar musical chairs at Newcastle United. The Celtic Park changes could reopen up the debate about whether football clubs in which directors have large personal shareholdings are suitable businesses for stock market status.

Mr McCann, who made his fortune in Canada, has turned the club around since he took control in March 1994. He has wiped out Celtic's debts and last year reported profits of £7 million. Season-ticket sales have risen from 7,000 to an expected 50,000 next year, when a new 10,000-seat stand opens, and next season's average gate is expected to top 55,000, compared with 21,000 four years ago.

He brought the club to the stock market in 1995 and, while other football shares have underperformed, Celtic's have risen from £80 to £245 and at one point were above £450. Some 10,000 fans are shareholders and Mr McCann's orginal £9 million investment is worth some £35 million at today's price.

There is some hostility, however, about the way he runs the club. His main opponent is property developer and former business associate Brian Dempsey, who helped Mr McCann oust the previous management in 1994. Mr Dempsey wants to ensure Mr McCann's 51 per cent stake is offered to supporters before institutional investors are offered a chance to buy.

Mr Dempsey, who also has a sizeable personal fortune, denies any intention of trying to buy Mr McCann's stake or mounting a bid for the club.



Chip makers accused

Mark Atkinson
Economics Correspondent

JAPANESE and Korean microchip manufacturers may be colluding with their European counterparts to keep prices high, resulting in millions of lost job opportunities in the UK and on the Continent, says a report published today.

The report, published by the Foundation for Manufacturing and Industry, contrasts the speed at which the IT revolution has spread through the US with its slow pace in Europe.

The EU's share of spending on IT as a percentage of national income is only 55 per cent of the US level, says the report, written by Oxford economist Walter Eltis, adding that one of the reasons the revolution has spread so swiftly in the US is that hardware and software are cheaper than in Europe.

Although the European market is no longer distorted by import tariffs and anti-dumping duties on microchips, European, Japanese and Korean producers have an agreement to exchange price information. This may be resulting in Japanese and Korean manufacturers selling in Europe at a price which is acceptable to European producers, he says.

If that is true, European producers are being protected from the full rigours of competition and users are suffering higher prices. "It is to be hoped that the European Commission regards it as a first priority to monitor European semi-conductor prices in relation to those of similar semi-conductors in Asia and North America."

IT staff are offered 50pc bonuses

LOYALTY bonuses worth up to 50 per cent of salary are being paid to computer staff to encourage them not to leave, according to a report published today.

Some firms are reviewing regularly the pay of information technology staff to because of skills shortages, Incomes Data Services says. Even so, turnover is running at up to 17 per cent.

Pay deals in the spring were mainly between 3 and 4 per cent but are likely to increase because of higher inflation, according to IDS.

Sex drug helps BTP profits beyond £50m

This week

Tony May

MANCHESTER chemical company BTP is expected to report profits up from £48 million to beyond £51 million, courtesy of the new Viagra sex drug for men. BTP supplies a key ingredient for Pfizer's pills.

George Soros is reportedly behind a consortium which could bid for Lonrho Africa if the share price falls after Thursday's half-year profit figures.

TODAY — Interims Gooch & Housego. SDX Business Systems, Warner Estate. **Finals** Acal, Alba, British Land, Christian Salvesen, CPL Aromas, Critchley, Electrocomponents, GEI, Hadleigh, Powerjet, Renold, Silk Industries, 600 Group, Unuco, Unigate, Vitec Group, Waddington. **TOMORROW — Interims** Firth Rixson, Fountain Forestry, Readicut. **Finals** Amberley, Anglian, BSS, BTP, Charles Stanley, James Crapper, European Motor, European Telecom, Field, Great Portland, Northern Foods, Severn Trent, Volex, Wessex Water, Yates. **WEDNESDAY — Interims** Granada, Howie, Leeds. **Finals** Drummond, Elka Tinsley, Expro, Hambros, Meyer, Scottish Hydro, Staveley, Vibroplant. **THURSDAY — Interims** Aitchisons Extrusions, Dawburst, Lonrho Africa, SHL. **Finals** Comino, European Colour, Johnson Matthey, Symonds, York Waterworks, Whitehead Mann. **FRIDAY — Finals:** Osborne & Little.



Wraps are off Jensen revival and sporting chance for motor industry

THE British car industry — which last week lost ownership of its most famous marque, Rolls-Royce — may be revived by the relaunch of another of its oldest names, Jensen.

Robin Bower, left, and Keith Rauer of Creative Group have designed a sports car for introduction next year.

Jensen collapsed for the second time in 1992 because of financial difficulties.

Creative, based in Redditch, Worcester, bought the rights to the Jensen brand earlier this year.

PHOTOGRAPH: RICHARD LEA-HAIR

US franchisees back Body Shop

Roger Cowe

BODY Shop franchisees in the US have leapt to the defence of the cosmetics retailer, after criticism recently by disaffected shop owners.

The company has been losing money in the US for three years and many entrepreneurs who invested their savings in a franchise have been angry at the company's failure to restore profits. But Body Shop has brought in an experienced retailer, Adrian Bellamy, as a partner at the head of the US chain, and many franchisees left a recent national meeting in more optimistic mood after a presentation of new products for the Christmas season.

Sheri Hemminghaus, who owns a store in Florida, said last week: "Some people are still disillusioned, but most of the people who needed to get out are out or are getting out."

Body Shop bought out 69 franchise shops in the US last year, leaving only 80 of the 290-strong network not owned by the company. The 50 franchisees who own these stores are members of the Committee For Progress, which met privately last month ahead of presentations from the company's founders, Anita and Gordon Roddick, who became co-chairmen in Body Shop's recent reorganisation.

A memo from the CFP to the acting head of the US business, David Edward, summed up the despair some felt: "The majority would welcome a fair and viable opportunity to exit the business, some would like to stay in. Regardless of whether they're of 'in' or 'out' mindframe, the franchisees unanimously feel that we're now outsiders and wonder, 'Why should we stay?' "

But Ms Hemminghaus said the Roddicks answered many of the complaints and managed to change the mood of their business partners by the time the weekend was over. "By the time all was done, most people were back on the other side of the fence", she said.



More pain for Merthyr



Larry Elliott

IT IS a long way from Threadneedle Street to Merthyr Tydfil, but the Bank of England had a blunt message last week for the workers at Candy, UK Can and Halla: accept lower pay deals or prepare to lose your jobs.

The Bank would not quite put it like that. What it said in its strangulated prose was: "Evidence has emerged over the past month that the cumulative tightening of the labour market has resulted in a rate of private-sector earnings growth that jeopardises the achievement of the inflation target over the medium term."

In plain English that means falling unemployment has made the workers a bit uppity with their wage claims and, unless they are brought to heel, inflation may rise above 2.5 per cent in two years' time.

In the factories of Wales, they see things differently. Indeed, they get quite fed up with policy being made on the basis of what is happening within the confines of the M25. But Wales does matter. What happens to Wales goes to the heart of the current debate on monetary and fiscal policy.

Wales is the poorest region of mainland Britain, and it has the lowest unit labour costs in the UK, partly due to the rapid improvement in productivity at British Steel, partly to the new machines installed in the inward investment plants, partly to the number of low-paid women workers in manufacturing.

Six years of growth in the economy as a whole have helped towns like Merthyr. But it is a long way from the M4 corridor and one of the rules about Wales is that economic conditions become tougher the further you travel from the M4 in the south and the A55 in the north. While the south-east and north-east corners are thriving, the whole of the western half of the country has severe, ingrained problems of low growth and high unemployment.

The Welsh Development Agency has had considerable success in attracting inward investment and has high hopes that the process can enter a new phase. "We have been on a drive for jobs. The emphasis now is on quality jobs," said David Rowe-Beddoe, chairman of the WDA.

Nobody can doubt the strength of the commitment, in Cardiff or Merthyr. The latter has been working tirelessly to make itself more attractive to investors — reclaiming land, sprucing up the town centre, landscaping the old slag heaps. Unemployment has come down, but there is a massive problem of disguised unemployment — the people who are classified as economically inactive because of long-term sickness or disability. In Merthyr, just under 2,000 people are unemployed claimants, about 10,000 are inactive.

Ray Pearce, Merthyr's economic development officer, has hopes of attracting more investors to the town, but says: "It is still a very fragile recovery. We have five big employers in the town and it only takes one of them to run into trouble and close down for the town to have a serious problem."

Compared with the rest of the UK, the Welsh economy has a lot of manufacturing industry. It accounts for 28 per cent of the region's GDP, against 21 per cent for the economy as a whole. The prestigious Cardiff Bay development apart, it has a relatively underdeveloped private sector, with a shortage of the high value-added jobs in financial and business services that bring so much wealth to the south-east. As Peter Hain, the Welsh minister with responsibility for the economy, puts it: "As far as the City is concerned, Wales might as well not exist."

'We have five big employers and it only takes one of them to close for the town to have a serious problem'

So, does last week's quarter-point rise in interest rates help or not? If ever a region needed high and stable levels of growth and employment it is Wales. The problem will be if the Government is on course to deliver *low* and stable levels of growth and employment.

Unless something strange has been happening on the monetary policy committee recently, the Bank is not exactly sure. Three of the four executive directors — led by Eddie George and including the one MPC member with any hands-on experience of industry — have been against pushing up rates. But the committee has five members — all with academic backgrounds — who have seen the numbers coming out of the Bank's economic model and do not like them one little bit. The Bank is split between touchy-feelies and economic modellers.

For the time being, the modellers are in the ascendant. Their case goes something like this. Britain has an inflation target of 2.5 per cent, but earnings are running at 5 per cent. Assuming productivity growth of 2 per cent and real earnings growth of 2.5 per cent, the inflation target cannot be met.

Until now, all that has prevented inflation from taking off has been the strength of the pound, which has cut the price of imported goods and held down the cost of living. But the fall in the value of the pound removes this prop, adding to inflationary pressures at a time when employers are having trouble finding and keeping staff.

This all sounds very plausible. According to the Bank, the economy is coming up against capacity constraints and needs a period of lower growth in order to bring demand back into line with supply.

But there are problems with this approach. As Jonathan Loynes of HSBC noted: "The key effect of the rise in the near term will be to maintain or perhaps even widen the current imbalances within the economy. With the vast bulk of new mortgages fixed, the immediate impact on the housing market and consumers in general is unlikely to be great. In contrast, it is likely to push industry even further into recession, if only because of the extra support the pound is now likely to enjoy. Accordingly, the conclusion is that the chances of a hard landing over the next two years have increased with this hike."

The Conservatives certainly scent blood. Francis Maude, the new shadow chancellor, said on Friday: "We're getting a little bit bored with hearing Labour's mantra about not going back to boom and bust. The Government has already delivered boom and bust at the same time, with manufacturing in recession while services keep growing."

Presumably, and rather sweetly, the MPC believes that a quarter-point rise in base rates is going to change attitudes among wage bargainers, who will sit around in the pubs discussing the trade-off between pay and jobs rather than watch England thrash Colombia in the World Cup. It seems just as likely, however, that bargainers will do what they always do — take one look at the headline rate of inflation and ratchet up their claims.

Traditionally, industry has maintained its competitiveness under such conditions by virtue of a weakening pound. But the Bank has signalled that it will respond to a lower value of sterling by pushing up interest rates. On both counts — earnings and sterling — it seems likely that rates still have further to rise and that the crunch will come when firms start going bust or laying off workers. A hard landing should not be discounted.

All of which makes the debate over fiscal policy all the more interesting. If the Bank's surprise move last week confounded the dovish tone of the recent Inflation Report, then the Chancellor's hawkish line on fiscal policy may conceal a more subtle approach.

Just as the Budget contrived to boost the incomes of the poor while being fearfully prudent, so the best bet is that the Chancellor will try to turn the same trick in the Comprehensive Spending Review. Mr Brown is trying to draw a distinction between current spending and capital spending, so that the pay-off for keeping departmental running costs under control will be a boost for investment in school, hospitals, roads and the New Deal for Communities.

There is a limit to this approach. Teachers' pay, for example, counts as current spending, when it should be called investment spending. But there is scope for an imaginative approach to public spending, even if the need to prevent even tighter monetary policy necessitates a firm stance on fiscal policy at this stage in the cycle.

The likelihood is that towns like Merthyr will get something out of the CSR. That is good, provided that they can also get the other things they need — a competitive pound and continuing decent levels of growth. Like the rest of the country, it certainly does not need to lurch back into the gloom of recession, because in the end what's good for Merthyr is good for Britain.

New Deals are on the wrong track

Debate

Peter Robinson

ONE OF the most radical policies introduced by the Government is the New Deal for young long-term unemployed claimants, introduced nationally in April. A less ambitious New Deal for adult long-term unemployed claimants is to be started this month.

The main economic justification for the New Deals is the belief that without significant and expensive intervention, in the form of wage subsidies to employers, and training and work placements, many of the long-term unemployed would not benefit from any expansion in employment. This could be the result of their lack of skills, or other personal characteristics, or could be the result of employer discrimination.

Allied to this is the argument that the long-term unemployed play less of a role in holding down wage inflation. Because employers view them less favourably, they do not take the existence of the long-term unemployed into account when bargaining over or setting wages.

So, if the New Deal could reduce long-term unemployment this would prove less inflationary than any reduction in short-term unemployment. This would please the Bank of England, which last week raised interest rates again because of fears over accelerating wage inflation.

However, a look at how unemployment durations have changed over the last five years casts doubt on the underlying economic rationale for the New Deal.

The table shows unemployment rates for short-term (defined as less than six months) and long-term (defined as more than 12 months) unemployed in the 1990s.

Short-term unemployment peaked in 1991 at 4.5 per cent of the workforce and then fell to 3.5 per cent by 1994. Since then the short-term unemployment rate has been fairly stable.

Long-term unemployment, peaked at the end of 1993 and has since fallen sharply. By early 1998 it had more than halved from its peak.

There are a number of things happening in the labour market which underpin these figures. During a recession, a lot more people become unemployed and after a year some will have become long-term unemployed. Once the recovery starts, fewer people become unemployed, and the short-term unemployment rate falls. After another lag of a year, fewer people are becoming long-term unemployed. The recovery enables more people who have lost their jobs to find new ones before becoming long-term jobless. At the same time, the overhang of long-term unemployment is whittled away as the long-term jobless find work or in some cases exit the labour market.

The consequence is that by the time the recovery has matured the stock of long-term unemployment starts to fall.

This dramatic fall in long-term unemployment suggests that, regardless of the problems which the long-term unemployed undoubtedly face, they are not so lacking in employability that a strong recovery will not pick up many of them. This is not to say that the Employment Service cannot play an important role in helping the long-term unemployed, just that any recovery in employment does not pass them by.

This dramatic fall poses problems for the orthodox view of the relationship between unemployment and inflation. If the Bank of England and the Treasury are right to be worrying about rising wage inflation, that inflationary pressure must be the result of long-term unemployment falling too far in the past year or so.

Short-term unemployment has been rather flat since 1994, and unless one believes in a four-year time-lag it seems implausible that the sharp fall in short-term unemployment between 1991 and 1994 is only now causing wage inflation.

But if it is the fall in long-term unemployment that is inflationary, then presumably the New Deal, which is designed to accelerate that fall, will simply reinforce the inflationary pressures.

Somewhere the economic orthodoxy is wrong. Either the macroeconomic underpinnings of the New Deal are in error, or the Treasury and the Bank of England are worrying unnecessarily about earnings growth.

Maybe this should be discussed at the next Monetary Policy Committee meeting

Peter Robinson is chief economist of the Institute for Public Policy Research

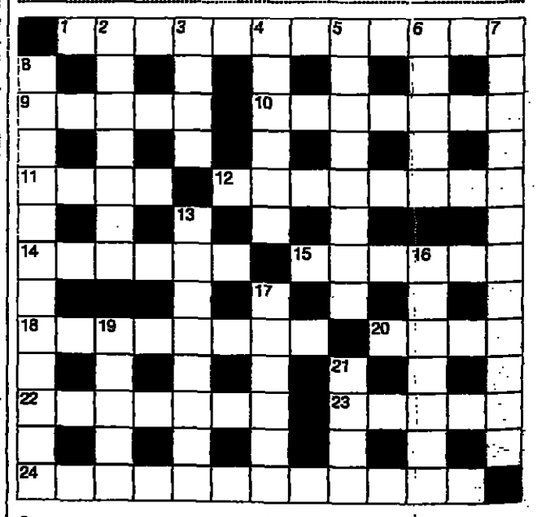
Duration of unemployment 1990-98

Unemployment rate %

	Total	Less than 6 months	More than 12 months
1990	6.7	3.5	2.2
1991	8.3	4.5	2.2
1992	9.6	4.1	3.4
1993	10.3	3.8	4.4
1994	9.6	3.5	4.3
1995	8.6	3.4	3.7
1996	8.1	3.5	3.2
1997	7.1	3.2	2.7
1998	6.4	3.4	2.0

Source: Labour Force Survey, Spring except 1998 January-March

Quick Crossword No. 8768

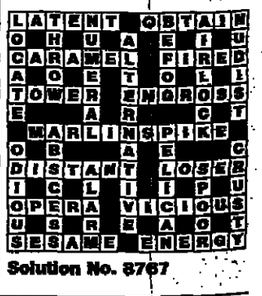


Across

1 Sofa — with crooked spire! (12)
9 Upper room (5)
10 Thorough-going (7)
11 Small craft (4)
12 Herb (8)
14 (Like a) spoke (6)
15 Rolled up manuscript etc (8)
18 Welsh, or early Palaeozoic (8)
20 As well (4)
22 Requiring hard work (7)
23 Cinema name (5)
24 Rate of pay 50% extra (4,3,1,4)

Down

2 Ribbon round headgear (7)
3 Container for potatoes etc (4)
4 Make lovable (6)
5 Oat cake (8)
6 Come in (5)
7 Full stop as used in mathematics (7,5)
8 North African seaboard (7,5)
13 Raincoat (anag) — Stevenson heroine (8)
16 Means of extracting petroleum (3,4)
17 Was successful — didn't know! (6)
19 Form of address to lady (5)
21 Upper-class (4)



Solution No. 8767

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Economics made easy

The twin pillars of global financial architecture are facing calls for radical redesign. Charlotte Denny explains

What is the global financial architecture?
A phrase recently adopted to describe the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. They are also sometimes called the Bretton Woods institutions, after the town in New Hampshire where the conference which set them up was held.

How old are they?
The Bretton Woods twins were set up at the close of the second world war to avoid a repetition of the 1930s depression. During the war, two economists, Harry Dexter White in the US and John Maynard Keynes in Britain, separately had sketched ideas for a global financial monitoring system which would prevent a financial crisis like the 1929 stock market crash ripping through the world economy.

What do the IMF and the World Bank do?
Originally the Fund's job was to monitor the system of fixed exchange rates set up at Bretton Woods. But the fixed exchange rates broke down in 1972 when the dollar left the system, and since then the main currencies, the yen, dollar, pound and German mark, have floated against each other. These days the IMF's role is to bail out countries facing short-term difficulties when they run out of foreign money and cannot pay creditors. The World Bank's primary goal has been alleviating poverty, originally among the war-torn nations of Europe but now mostly in developing countries. It makes long-term loans at favourable interest rates and advises countries on economic and development policies.

Why does the global financial system need overseeing?
It runs on confidence, just like any country's banking system, and can be hit by systemic crises when investors suddenly lose their faith and pull out their loans. For example, if an individual bank fails, perhaps due to bad loans or spectacularly incompetent management, there is always a danger that depositors who have put their money in perfectly safe institutions may get nervous and decide their cash would be safer under the mattress. The banks are unlikely to have enough cash on hand to cover the call on deposits. When a run on the banks threatens, the central bank in each country acts as a lender of last resort — it steps in and makes sure there is enough cash in the system to keep depositors happy. The IMF does this on a worldwide scale.

Like what happened in South-east Asia last year?
Exactly. The Fund mounted its biggest rescue operation yet as investors fled the region and the countries' exchange rates collapsed one by one. But critics say that the IMF is increasingly acting as the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff. Each crisis is bigger than the last and requires more IMF money to stabilise. Hence the calls from people like US Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin to strengthen the global financial architecture.

What does the Fund say?
That if some of the countries had listened to it earlier, particularly about the dangers of pegged exchange rates, they would not be in this trouble now. The Fund thinks the solution is to strengthen weak banking systems in emerging economies and to increase transparency so investors can see problems developing rather than getting a nasty surprise.

What do other people say?
Financier George Soros thinks that there should be another international institution to guarantee international loans according to how credit-worthy countries are. Any investor lending more than the guarantee body was prepared to approve would take all the risk itself. There is also renewed interest in systems to limit short-term capital flows, which are the main source of instability.

What will happen?
G7 calls for countries to be more open and to regulate their banking systems properly. Until the next crisis . . .

If they're too tired to walk the dog, sell Tanzania

Worm's eye

Dan Atkinson

WATCH closely developments at Goldman Sachs, the Wall Street institution that once famously distributed bonuses equivalent to the income of Tanzania. Should the assorted investment bankers choose to float their institution, it will mean a lot more than simply the (probable) top of the stock market boom.

It will mean that, of course. When those who have made big money helping to run the casino turn their ownership into blue plaques and offer them to the gamblers, you can be sure the gaming business is not what it was. But transformation of Goldmans into a quoted company has greater significance.

It could be simply that Goldmans' top brass are worn out. In January the Washington Post noted that, despite salaries and extras that guaranteed lives of "almost unimaginable affluence", for many the Wall Street lifestyle was "a gilded cage". Some of the poor dears, it seems, have to employ other people even to walk the dog.

When the hit man tires of killing, the obvious thing to do is to sell a stake in the assassination business.

That said, the real question is why Goldmans are even thinking of ditching the partnership system in favour of something else. Limited liability is a wonderful thing, but not having it doesn't seem to have done the bank any harm.

Fashion could provide the answer. It is a little known fact that one of the few legislative priorities for our own dear Department of Trade and Industry is a law allowing accountants and other professionals to limit themselves, in defiance of a long tradition that decreed professional advisers ought to carry the can for their own mistakes. Why is it happening? In what has become an absolutely typical sequence of events, the big accountants threatened to move to the Channel Islands — where such protection is available — unless the British Government changed the rules over here.

You can see why they seek limited liability. So great had their mistakes become — British & Commonwealth, Polly Peck, BCCI — that a number were facing an unpleasant dialogue in the courts.

But limited liability is not some cost-free gift from society; it, like all the other "unaffordable" measures, such as the minimum wage and health and safety regulations, has to be paid for. Protecting the "professionals" from the consequences of their own folly will churn out a long bill to be paid for by everybody else.

For the investor the advice is, sadly, clear.

Sell Tanzania.

Indicators

TODAY — UK: Producer prices (May).
Q10: Central bank governors' meeting.
TOMORROW — UK: BRC sales monitor (May).
UK: Industrial production (Apr).
UK: Manufacturing production (Apr).
GER: Bundesbank council meeting.
GER: Unemployment (May).
WEDNESDAY — UK: Minutes of May 6-7 MPC meeting.
FRIDAY — US: Producer prices (May).
Source: HSBC Markets Limited.

Tourist rates – bank sells

Australia 2.638	Germany 2.818	Malaysia 6.45	Singapore 2.71
Austria 19.80	Greece 480.94	Malta 0.822	South Africa 8.15
Belgium 58.08	Hong Kong 12.32	Netherlands 3.161	Spain 237.70
Canada 2.325	India 68.64	New Zealand 3.08	Sweden 12.44
Cyprus 0.831	Ireland 1.116	Norway 11.87	Switzerland 2.338
Denmark 10.79	Israel 5.99	Portugal 287.38	Turkey 406,080
Finland 8.643	Italy 2,795	Saudi Arabia 6.03	US 1.60
France 9.424			

Supplied by NatWest (excluding rupee, shekel and rouble)

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The Guardian Monday June 8 19..

...w Deals ...on the ...ong track

Duration of unemployment 1990-98

	Total	Less than 3 months	More than 12 months
1990	6.7	[illegible]	2.2
1991	8.3	[illegible]	2.2
1992	9.6	[illegible]	3.2
1993	10.3	[illegible]	3.4
1994	9.6	[illegible]	4.4
1995	[illegible]	[illegible]	4.3
1996	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.7
1997	[illegible]	[illegible]	3.2
1998	[illegible]	[illegible]	2.7

Crossword No. 8768

Solution No. 8767

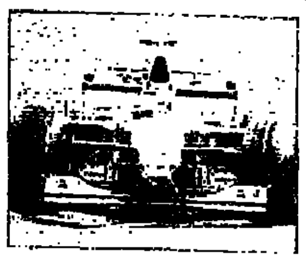
In the acclaimed 12-page sports section



Hagi bargy
England rivals in turmoil on road to France
14



Pom bashing
Woodward's men sink to record defeat
21



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Racing 22
Results 23
Motor Racing 24

The Guardian Sport

Monday June 8 1998 www.cricket98.co.uk

England v South Africa: first Cornhill Test, fourth day

Stewart sets England on victory dash

Mike Selvey sees brave batting and poor bowling give hope of a home win today

THE weather may have the final say on the result of the first Test at Edgbaston but some spirited English batting in a long final session yesterday — abetted by more woeful bowling from the most hyped opening attack in the world — has given England an outside chance of forcing a win, and at the very least the opportunity to finish on the high ground, while South Africa still have an interest, especially as England are a bowler short. It could be an intriguing last day.

South Africa were 192 for five overnight and England duly bowled them out, Dominic Cork finishing with five for 93 on his return to Test cricket, but not before a terrific eighth-wicket partnership of 104 between Jonty Rhodes and Lance Klusener, the highest of the innings, had rescued them from 234 for seven, 29 short of avoiding a possible follow-on. It helped them to 343.

Rhodes was finally out to Angus Fraser (one of four wickets for him and the 150th of his career), having batted 229 minutes for his 95, while Klusener, who became Mark Ealham's maiden first-class victim of the summer, hit 57 with 11 boundaries, as the depleted bowling wilted.

With a lead of 119 and four sessions remaining, a negative England might have considered the worst-case scenario and settled in to see what happened. England's response, therefore, was all the more heartening in its positive intent and practice, even if they pushed it to the extreme. At stumps they had reached 170 for eight, from 45 overs, giving them an overall lead of 289. When Mike Atherton reverse-sweeps in a Test match, then things really have changed.

So great was the pressure applied by the batting that Hansie Cronje was compelled to fall back on that unappetising standby — much used by England in the past — of a left-arm spinner, in this case Paul Adams, bowling over the wicket and pitching the ball wide of leg stump. As Adams had conceded fewer than two runs per over during his 42 overs in the first innings, without resorting to such practice, it was doubly dubious.

It will not happen for much longer: recently the ICC Cricket Committee agreed to act on the recommendation of the international captains that the 'Limited Overs Wide' interpretation should be applied to bowling down the leg side into the rough as a negative tactic. This will be implemented from October 1 and it cannot come soon enough.

The South Africans have problems. If the pitiful performance by the seam bowlers in the first innings might charitably have been ascribed to first-day nerves, there was no such excuse yesterday. Fred Trueman would have been rendered speechless.

Allan Donald was barely capable of landing successive deliveries in the same parish and Shaun Pollock was little better. Mark Boucher may not be the finest wicketkeeper but he deserves a medal for his acrobatic pains in this match. Bob Woolmer, South Africa's coach, was reduced to prowling the pavilion corridors behind the bowler's arm muttering to himself.

The final session was exhilarating, with Atherton belting his first ball off the back foot to the cover boundary to set the tone. Mark Butcher (11) and Nasser Hussain (0) were victims of questionable lbw verdicts. But Alec Stewart swung the bat with gusto for his 28, once biffing the bemused Pollock over mid-on. When he hit around a rare straight delivery from Donald and was bowled, Graham Thorpe joined Atherton in a partnership of 63, of which the left-hander made 43 with five boundaries before he was yorked by Klusener's clever slower ball. He will be a key figure in countering Adams's wrist spin this summer.

Atherton, meanwhile, had caught the mood much as he had a year ago when England chased a target to beat Australia. He batted for almost three hours for his 43, but in the latter stages played with freedom and character. There is real enjoyment in his cricket at present.

When Atherton was bowled, making room to fiddle Donald to the offside, Mark Ramprakash might have been left to nurse the tail. But he drove his second ball to the extra-cover boundary and lofted Adams over long-on for six before a leading edge was adjudged by the third umpire to have been caught cleanly by Jacques Kallis diving forwards at extra cover.

Rhodes played perhaps his best innings for South Africa, having taken the initiative away from England on Saturday and, with Klusener's vigour in tandem, did so again after Fraser removed Pollock and Boucher. Only twice might he have faltered: on 64, when he hooked Cork to long leg, where Darren Gough's young substitute Ben Spendlove almost brought off a superb catch; and, on 86, he seemed to have edged Robert Croft to Stewart. But David Shepherd disagreed.

Scoreboard

ENGLAND: First innings 462 (M A Atherton 103, M A Butcher 77; Donald 4-95).

SOUTH AFRICA
First innings

G Kirsten c Butcher b Cork	12
G F J Liebenberg c Sub b Cork	3
J H Kallis c Stewart b Cork	61
D J Cullinan b Fraser	78
*W J Cronje c Sub b Cork	1
J N Rhodes c Stewart b Fraser	95
S M Pollock c Croft b Fraser	16
†M V Boucher c Stewart b Fraser	0
L Klusener c Stewart b Ealham	57
A A Donald c & b Cork	7
P R Adams not out	6
Extras (lb5, nb2)	7
Total (117.3 overs)	343

Fall of wickets: 6, 38, 119, 125, 191, 211, 224, 328, 329.

Bowling: Fraser 34-6-103-4; Cork 32.3-7-93-5; Ealham 23-8-55-1; Croft 27-3-86-0; Butcher 1-0-2-0.

ENGLAND
Second innings

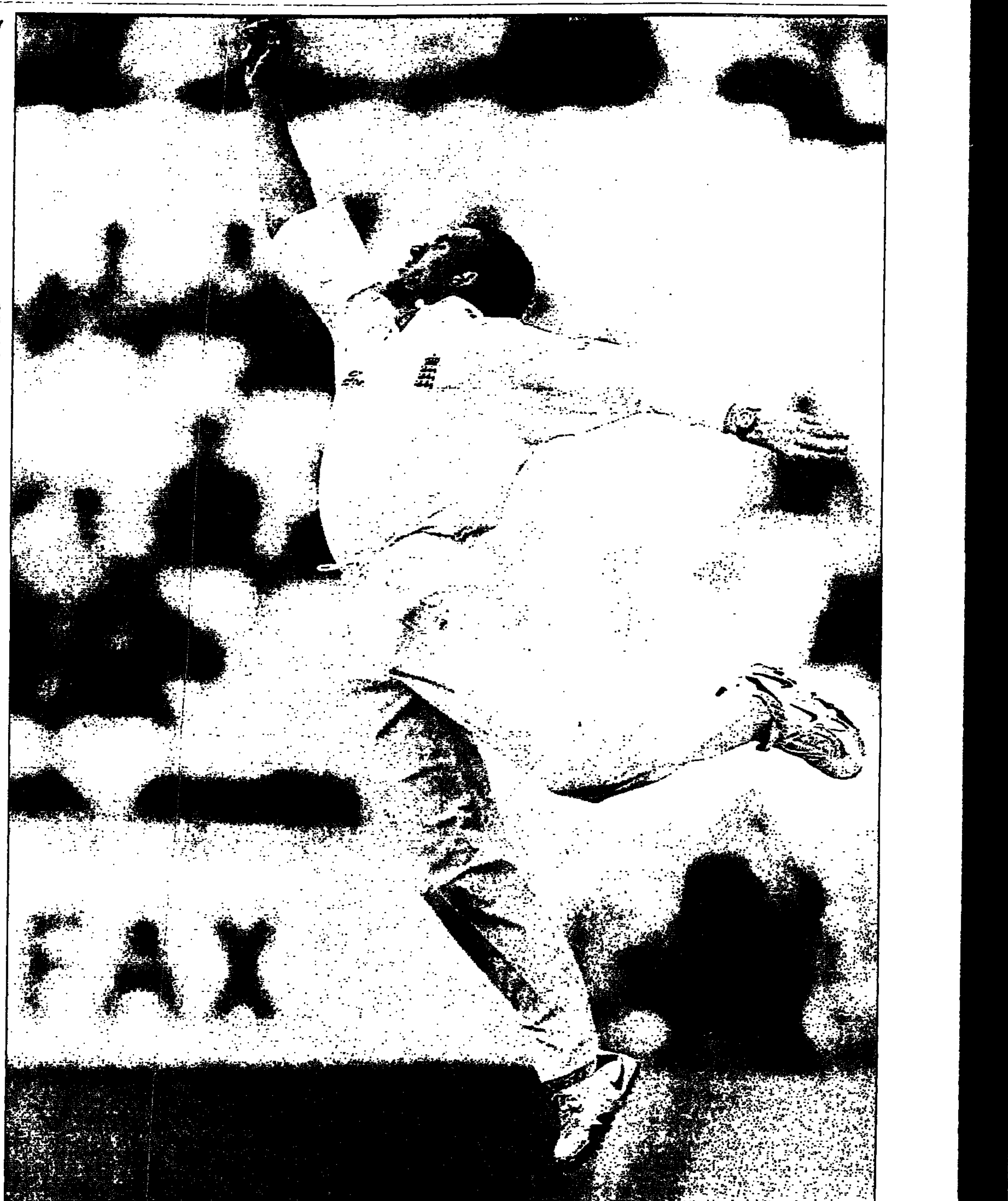
M A Butcher lbw b Pollock	11
M A Atherton b Klusener	43
N Hussain lbw b Donald	0
*†A J Stewart b Donald	28
G P Thorpe b Klusener	43
M R Ramprakash c Kallis b Adams	11
M A Ealham c Pollock b Klusener	7
D G Cork st Boucher b Adams	2
R D B Croft not out	1
Extras (b10, lb6, w8)	24
Total (for 8, 45.1 overs)	170

Fall of wickets: 24, 31, 80, 148, 153, 167, 167, 170.

To bat: D Gough, A R C Fraser.

Bowling: Donald 10-1-48-2; Pollock 12-2-43-1; Klusener 11-4-27-3; Adams 12.1-3-36-2.

Umpires: D R Shepherd and R Tiffin.



High-flying . . . Dominic Cork leaps to make Allan Donald a caught-and-bowled victim as the returning paceman took five wickets for 93



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Everton decide to throw Kendall overboard

Ian Ross

HOWARD Kendall's relationship with Everton, an affair which has spanned more than three decades, will end today in acrimonious divorce. Kendall's third spell as manager will close either by mutual consent or, more likely, dismissal less than 12 months after it opened.

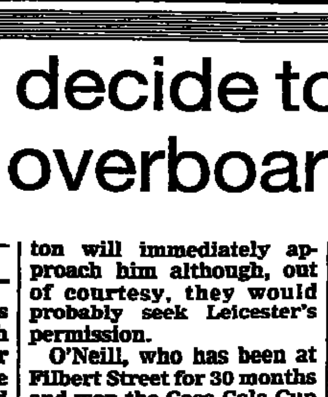
Having reached the conclusion that the 52-year-old Kendall is a constant reminder of a famous past rather than a man equipped to ensure a successful future, the club would like to replace him with Leicester's Martin O'Neill.

O'Neill is expected to announce within 24 hours if his dispute with Leicester over the restructuring of the club's internal management will precipitate his departure. Although Sir Rodney Walker, the chairman of Leicester's plc arm, is optimistic that the manager will remain, a parting of the ways is now all but inevitable — possibly later today, before O'Neill leaves for France as part of BBC TV's World Cup team.

If O'Neill resigns, Everton will immediately approach him although, out of courtesy, they would probably seek Leicester's permission.

O'Neill, who has been at Filbert Street for 30 months and won the Coca-Cola Cup in that time, has a clause in his contract which guarantees Leicester around £1 million in compensation if he should leave to join another club, an agreement which would become void if he should resign.

Kendall's departure will come less than a month after he steered Everton to Premiership survival on the final day of last season. Initially it had appeared likely that he would be allowed to continue with his efforts to revitalise Everton's fortunes.



Kendall . . . time up, again

Although the chairman Peter Johnson denied him the vote of confidence, he was invited to strengthen the senior squad, lodging a £3.75 million bid for the Bolton midfielder Alan Thompson, who joined Aston Villa last Friday, and for Derby's Lee Carsley.

Kendall even survived a face-to-face meeting with Johnson in Milan last month, insisting that his own future had not been on the agenda. However, Kendall's fate was sealed last Friday when Johnson returned to Goodison from his Jersey home to lock horns with a divided board which was frustrated and on the point of rebellion.

Most were anxious for a fourth managerial switch in 4½ years but Johnson's 68 per cent shareholding ensured that his was the only opinion that mattered. As he had decided Kendall should go, there was no need for protracted discussion.

Kendall returned last June, digging Johnson out of a hole after Bobby Robson and Andy Gray declined the job.

France 98 Aces and wild cards

Romania awash with boos

England's rivals have been dogged by feuds with the public and press. **Russell Thomas** reports

PAUL GASCOIGNE and Teddy Sheringham are not alone. A chorus of disapproval has been raining down on the players of Romania, who will rival England in the World Cup and are being branded at home as companions in disgrace.

Consumption, though not of the kebab and ale variety, has raised its ugly head in Romania. In an impoverished country, tales of their exiles' sharp-suited, Ferrari-driving lifestyles understandably jar with the millions of have-nots at home. There are many easy targets: 16 of Anghel Iordanescu's 22-man squad ply their lucrative trade abroad.

The squad, accusing the media of whipping up public hostility, have retaliated with a self-imposed gag in France, refusing to talk to anyone except Romanian state television and at official Fifa conferences. The action was to "maintain our emotional balance", said the letter signed by all 22 players.

The boycott followed barracking by the Bucharest crowd in the 3-2 win over Paraguay on Wednesday. Afterwards a row erupted over the goalkeeper Bogdan Stelea's antics; he bared his teeth in contempt and allegedly made the obscene finger gesture to the crowd and loud, sustained jeering after Paraguay's second goal.

Gheorghe Hagi, the captain and national idol, led the player protest. "The public does not love us because you [journalists] write nonsense about us. We deserve a statue for what we've done in the last 10 years for Romania and don't deserve to be criticised."

Chelsea's Dan Petrescu remarked acidly: "Maybe we should not play in Romania any more. Maybe we should play in Bulgaria."

The Romanian Football Federation took Petrescu half at his word, swiftly shifting Romania's last friendly against Moldova from the national stadium to Ploiesti, 37 miles north of Bucharest. The Federation cited "disputes between the players and Bucharest's spectators".

After winning that game 5-1 on Saturday, the squad headed yesterday for the relative sanctuary of Albi, their training base in France.

There the Romanians hope finally to smooth the troubled road to France 98, one pitted by Iordanescu's announcement early this year that he will leave to coach the Greek national team after the finals. That prompted the Federation to strip the country's most famous general of his honorary rank. Yet Iordanescu is still held in high regard, something which cannot be said of the domestic game, tainted by allegations of corruption.



Ten's time ... Gheorghe Hagi, at 33, remains pivotal to the plans of Romania's coach Anghel Iordanescu (below) PHOTOGRAPHS: ROBERT GHEMENT; GARY M PRIOR



Romania's campaign in France has been widely billed as the last chance for the old guard. England, without a single player of World Cup experience, should beware seasoned opponents who are stung by lack of respect internationally.

They, after all, are the seeds in Group G — not England — after a stunning qualifying performance which saw them win nine of their 10 matches and amass 37 goals. They are no more in awe of Glenn Hoddle's team than previous Romanian sides, unbeaten in their past five games against England.

Generals are usually conservative, so little personnel and tactical alternation is likely from Iordanescu in France. "There will be some changes," he conceded tersely when questioned about strategy, but his team will scarcely stray from the counter-attacking approach which maximises their unquestionably high technique and wonderful flexibility in switching formation. Argentina, in that exhilarating game in USA 94, are the most celebrated victims of Romanian excellence.

The coach's inner circle of Hagi, Petrescu — both share Steaua Bucharest backgrounds with Iordanescu — Gica Popescu and Dorinel Munteanu are guaranteed places. Proven performers in 1994, this quartet have campaigned successfully for the recall of Ilie Dumitrescu, whose performances in the US precipitated his fateful move to England. The mercurial forward now plies his trade with Atlante in Mexico.

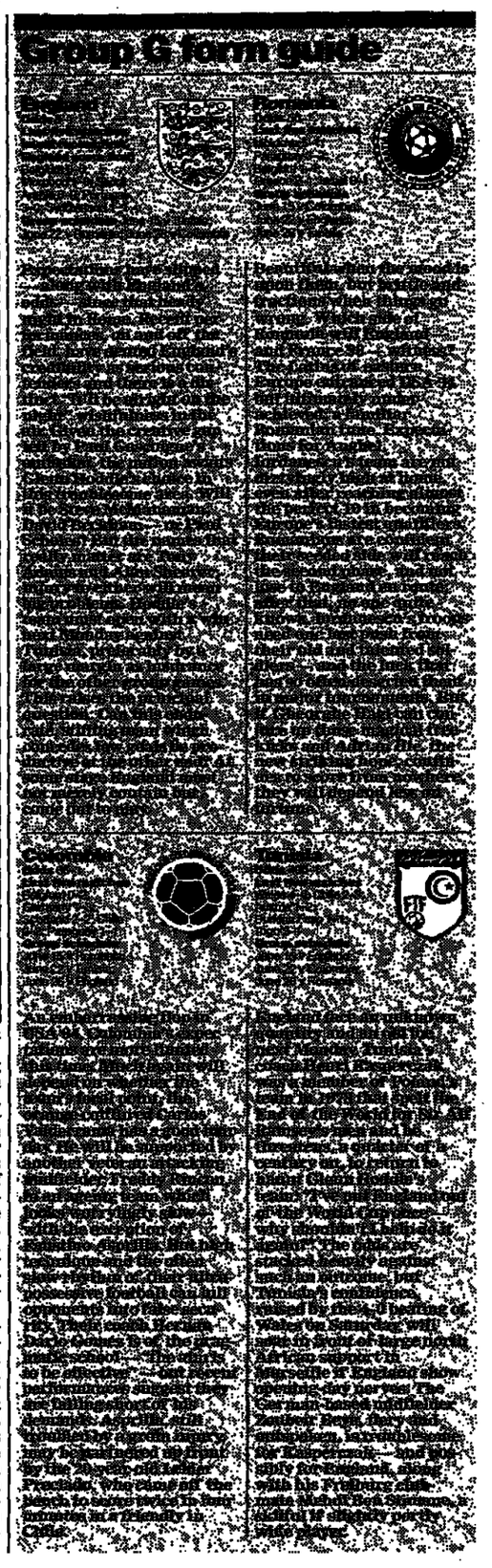
Ageing limbs in important positions are the prime concern. Doubts persist about the 33-year-old Hagi lasting more than an hour, though his devotees say that is more than sufficient for the midfielder to wreck havoc with that wondrous left foot. Gica Popescu, 30, was not noted for pace in his unhappy Tottenham days or for relishing a physical contest, which is the Romanians' biggest fear when they meet England.

The defence, like the midfield, would have virtually picked itself but for the blow of losing Atletico Madrid's tough central defender Daniel Prodan to injury. But Iordanescu appears to have good cover here in the versatile 24-year-old Iulian Filipescu, a Galatasaray club-mate of Hagi and Gica Popescu. Nevertheless, the rearguard has looked decidedly suspect in some warm-up games.

The attack, supported by Petrescu's forays down the right, presents fascinating options, even if Dumitrescu and Marius Lacatus, now 34, can expect to be used sparingly. Much will depend on the 24-year-old Valencia striker Adrian Ilie living up to his billing as the new hope of Romanian football and justifying his nickname "The Cobra", which stems from his sudden, venomous shooting. Alongside him, Coventry City's Viorel Moldovan or Radu Niculescu will eagerly pursue any opportunities.

For all the talent at his disposal, the strong-willed Iordanescu may need more than the crucifix he was seen clutching constantly four years ago. He can do without the temperamental excesses which undermine Romania's chances and can do with the luck that eluded his country in the US and in Italia 90, when elimination by penalty shootouts provided cruel climaxes to games Romania should have won.

Group G form guide



Bergkamp out, Passarella reacts to drugs test

Noam Friedlander

DENNIS BERGKAMP's hamstring injury has ensured that he will miss Holland's opening World Cup match against Belgium on Saturday and almost certainly their second against South Korea on June 20.

The Dutch team's doctor, Frits Kessel, speaking from their camp, said: "The injury has been far worse than estimated in the beginning. We didn't want pressure to be put on him, although he does handle everything so well."

Bergkamp has now been out of action for six weeks, a fact which worries the Dutch coach Guus Hiddink.

"Repairing an injured player is one thing, getting him match-fit is another. I hope and pray he'll be able to guide us to the world title."

The Argentinian squad have been put into isolation by their coach Daniel Passarella following a positive test for a banned substance by an unnamed squad member.

Passarella, a stern disciplinarian, has closed the camp for two days in order to restore calm.

The team's doctor, Luis Seveso, has tried to quell the storm by claiming that the test could have been caused by his giving several players a "rapid cure" influenza medication banned during competition.

The controversial Brazilian striker Edmundo has told furious team-mates that his quotes, when he claimed to be better than Bebeto, had been misunderstood after they criticised him in a team meeting at their Ozoir-La-Ferrière training camp.

The comment came after Bebeto had been chosen over Edmundo to start Wednesday's game against Scotland. After the players grilled Edmundo last Saturday he claimed that he did not mean that he should play, merely that he was ready to.

Japan, Argentina's opening opponents next Sunday, made 10 substitutions at half-time and struggled to find their rhythm as they beat the French Second Division side Gueugnon 1-0 in their final warm-up match yesterday, the striker Masashi Nakayama heading a ninth-minute goal.

The captain Masami Ihara was missing due to an ankle injury but the flame-haired midfielder Hidetoshi Nakata showed his class as his passing and vision were behind almost all their attacks.

The Japanese appeal to remove a Jamaican assistant referee from their following match against Croatia has succeeded. Japan pointed out Jamaica are also in Group H.

Ivan Zamorano, the Internazionale and Chilean international, has picked up a slight knee injury in a practice match, said the team doctor Eugenio Valdecantos yesterday. "There's no swelling, just a small pain," he added.

The striker, who partners the former Manchester United target Marcelo Salas up front, should be able to train again soon in time to be fit for Chile's opening match on Thursday against Italy.

Fifa has ensured that time added on for injuries and substitutions will be strictly regulated at the World Cup finals and communicated to players and spectators.

The referees are under strict instructions to add on 30 seconds at half-time or full-time for each substitution and a full minute or more for any injury which requires a player to leave the field.

A further innovation is that time-wasting will be penalised in units of 30 seconds at the referee's discretion.

Red tape and rumour conspire to give Indomitable Lions raw deal

CAMEROON will be hoping for a few boring days in their Beziers training camp after the chaos of their lead-up to France 98.

With the head of the country's FA in detention back home in Yaounde over alleged World Cup ticket irregularities, the Africans' preparation for their first match, against Austria on Thursday, has hardly been without a ripple or two.

The Indomitable Lions arrived in Montpellier on Friday without visas and bearing only photocopies of their passports.

French newspapers said the group of 35, held in customs for two hours, were allowed entry only after authorities issued players with temporary passes. World Cup organisers said the team were held up "by administrative formalities".

Cameroon had arrived from Copenhagen, where they had beaten Denmark 2-1 in a warm-up match.

Meanwhile, in the Cameroon capital the president of the country's football federation Vincent Onana was questioned and detained in a defence ministry building.

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Tennis

Sanchez Vicario plays it tough and gracious

Stephen Bierley in Paris sees the Spaniard end the Seles fairytale with apologies

LIFE is not a soap opera and Monica Seles did not win the French Open title here on Saturday. In a fairytale world she would have recaptured the glories of those three high-powered victories at Roland Garros between 1990 and 1992. The reality was that she foundered on her own frailties and the excellence of her opponent.

Arantxa Sanchez Vicario's simple and heartfelt "I'm so sorry I beat you" beautifully captured the occasion. Seles had arrived in Paris less than a fortnight after her father Karoly's death, with an immense amount of sympathy and goodwill buoying her every step and stroke.

Five years ago Seles seemingly had it all: eight Grand Slam titles by the time she was 19, and the prospect of many more. Then, in April 1993, she was stabbed while playing in Hamburg, and her radiant future became a life of shadow and uncertainty.

There is small wonder that the Yugoslavia-born American resolutely holds herself in the here and now. She was asked on Saturday, after her 7-6, 0-6, 6-2 defeat, whether her appearance in the final in any way compared with the previous occasions.

"I don't remember how it used to feel. I'm in the present right now," Seles replied firmly and, as is her custom, she gave a little nod of her head to reinforce that this particular line of questioning was over.



Embracing grace ... Sanchez Vicario hugs Seles after beating her LAURENT REBOURS

It was always likely, despite the public desire for her to succeed, that Seles would find the going tough against the Spaniard, especially if she lost the opening set.

The severity of Seles's semi-final victory over Switzerland's Martina Hingis, the world No.1 and pre-tournament favourite, was riveting, but sustaining such intensity requires plenty of games in the bank and her father's illness prevented that.

In Saturday's third set the errors, virtually non-existent against Hingis, began to multiply at crucial moments. Seles missed five break-points whereas Sanchez Vicario needed only one to build an impregnable 4-1 lead.

Sanchez Vicario has acquired the reputation of being an essentially defensive player, relying on her opponents to make mistakes. There is also a good deal of blatant sexism against her because she does not fit comfortably into the male marketing dream.

Off court she can be as charming as she is fiercely competitive on court and nobody could have been more gracious in victory than Sanchez Vicario was. She knew the crowd were virtually all on the side of Seles, yet there was never a trace of irritation or self-pity. "I love this tournament," she said. And so she should.

This was the Spaniard's sixth French Open singles final and her third victory, the other two coming in 1989 against Steffi Graf when she was 17, and four years ago against Mary Pierce.

Her two dogs are named Roland and Garros in honour of those wins but she does not intend buying a third. "I would need a huge new house," she said, although she could certainly afford one, having won nearly £400,000 on Saturday.

Although Sanchez Vicario could never match Seles's initial power, she responded to the challenge with a wide variety of superb winners, although in the vital tie-break the American all but self-destructed when she insisted on repeating fruitless drop shots.

Sanchez Vicario more or less allowed the second set to speed by, taking only six points from six games, but an early break in the final set put her back in the ascendancy.

So the veterans — Sanchez Vicario is 26, Seles 24 — thumbed their noses at the teenies and, with Graf due to try another comeback in Edgbaston this week, the youngsters may find Wimbledon equally tough. In sharp contrast to the men, women's tennis is brimming with interest.

For Hingis at least there was some consolation for her singles exit when she shared the women's doubles title with Jana Novotna. The Swiss and the Czech, seeded second, beat the top-seeded partnership of Lindsay Davenport and Natasha Zvereva 6-1, 7-6 in the final.

In the men's event the Dutch pairing of Jacco Eltingh and Paul Haarhuis had to regain impetus for a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 win over Mark Knowles of the Bahamas and Daniel Nestor of Canada.

The Williams sisters met in the mixed doubles final, Venus and Justin Gimelstob beating her younger sibling Serena and Luis Lobo 6-4, 6-4.

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France 98 The task ahead of England



Fine-tuning for the finals . . . the Tunisian Skander Souayah hurdles a challenge by Craig Bellamy as Mark Pembridge closes in during the 4–0 win over Wales in Tunis PHOTOGRAPH: MOHAMED HAMMI

Tunisia play the guessing game

Martin Thorpe in Tunis sees England's first opponents learn little from a 4–0 win over Wales about what faces them next Monday

ONE would have thought that in a country of 20 per cent desert it would be easy to see the wood for the trees. But Tunisia's final game before they become England's opening World Cup opponents produced not so much mutual enlightenment as bilateral confusion.

First, Tunisia had booked Saturday's date with Wales presuming that a British side could simulate the challenge lying ahead in Marseille a week today. Hoping to face an England clone, Tunisia found themselves playing a footballing version of Dolly the sheep.

Wales's attempted impersonation of Hoddle's team looked more like a take-off of Doncaster Rovers, and a 4–0 win left the Tunisians none the wiser about what to expect on June 15.

Which will please Hoddle, especially as his team selections of late have thoroughly confused Tunisia anyway.

"We have watched all England's matches," said the Tunisian FA's president Taerk Ben M'Barek, "and things are taking place but I don't know what. Is Glenn Hoddle hiding something?"

More than likely. But if the Tunisians' extracted minimal benefit from Saturday's game, so did England. Sitting in the main stand at the El-Menzah stadium, Hoddle's scout Dave Sexton was left only to imagine how Tunisia will play against England, whose defence should not give away the silly goals Wales did, whose midfield will close down far more securely and whose attack should conjure up bouts of sustained pressure rather than sporadic bursts.

Thankfully, Sexton saw Tunisia play Chile earlier last week, a game the Africans lost 3-2 after twice leading. Nonetheless the former Manchester United manager was impressed. "Tunisia are a football side," he said yesterday. "They get the ball down and try and pass it through you. They've got decent strikers, especially Mehdi Ben Slimane, and good wing-backs attacking, though not so good defending. Also the back three need a bit of protection, which they got against Wales until the midfield got excited and tended to bomb on.

"They did the same against Chile, and as a result they lost a game they should have won. They were the better side until the last 20 minutes. But I think there's space there for England to do some damage."

It was easy for Tunisian players to stand out against Wales. Khaled Badra, one of the central defenders, showed a delicate and confident touch for a tall man; Skander Souayah roamed midfield with an adventurous eye and showed himself to be more than an adequately inventive replacement for Zoubeir Beya.

Beya is Tunisia's version of Gazza, uncannily known as "the fat one" and dropped because the national coach questioned his attitude. The parallel was further enhanced by Beya's performance as a second-half substitute when he, too, struggled to piece together the fragments of a once sublime talent.

Exotica in the starting line-up is now provided by a Brazilian, Jose Clayton, who became a Tunisian national after three years with a local club and on Saturday showed that he possesses a samba touch if not a total grasp.

But despite the signs, one can only think that Tunisia would not have blossomed so well had the opposition hailed from east of Offa's Dyke. Their football is in transition from amateur to professional and progression to the World Cup second round would represent success for a nation of only 26,000 registered players.

As for beating England, that would be a miracle, admitted M'Barek, before cheekily proposing that if Hoddle's side allowed Tunisia to draw they would back England's bid for the 2006 World Cup.

Realistically Tunisia's hopes lie in catching England on one of their traditionally slow starts, lasting better in the heat and being lifted to undreamt-of heights by the passion of the partisan crowd inside the Stade Velodrome in Marseille, a city with a huge north African population.

"I've put England out of the World Cup once so why shouldn't I do it again," boasts Tunisia's coach Henry Kasperczak, a member of the Poland side who famously blocked England's qualification for the 1974 finals. "When you look at the English Premiership, we are impressed with those games. But so far Hoddle's team have not proved anything."

Brown hits at Sky 'twist'

Patrick Glenn in St Remy-de-Provence and **Russell Thomas** find Sheringham and television darkening the World Cup view for England and Scotland



Sheringham . . . 10-day trial

THE Scotland manager Craig Brown yesterday accused Sky Television of creating bad blood between him and Glenn Hoddle, the England coach.

Brown said he had been trying to call Hoddle to explain that he had been "stitched up" in a broadcast by the satellite company after the Scots' first open press conference here on Saturday.

"I have already spoken to David Davies of the Football Association to clarify the matter," said an angry Brown, "and I'll keep trying to get hold of Glenn. It's not an apology, as we have nothing to apologise for. But Glenn should have an explanation."

Brown began the weekend briefing by saying that "I have no back-page leads for you guys" — his normal opening line to the Scottish media on quiet news days. He was immediately asked by an English reporter for a comment on the Teddy Sheringham affair. Brown refused to comment, insisting he was concerned only with his own players and adding that so far everything had gone well.

Sky began its broadcast by saying that "Craig Brown had no front page or back page news today" and Scotland's manager believed that introduction implied smugness on his part as well as criticism of Hoddle and the England squad's off-field behaviour.

"We are certainly not smug and we are not in the business of criticising anyone," said Brown.

Brown's only difficulty appears to be keeping some training sessions a secret from the inquisitive Brazilian media. Most work-outs are open but there are times when the manager insists on privacy.

When he tried a short session in camera for the first time on Saturday morning, he found Brazilian reporters spying from the top of a strategically placed van on a slope outside the ground.

On completion of yesterday's full session Brown had to spirit his four main midfield players away to work in private on set-pieces.

"We do our best to accommodate everyone and that's why most of our practice is open," he said. "But there are times when we have to work on things that we simply must keep to ourselves. Every manager here will have to do that to one degree or another.

"I took Craig Burley, Billy McKinlay, John Collins and Paul Lambert off to practise free-kicks, corners and throw-ins. There are elements you can introduce to these set-pieces which might just be the kind of little thing that could give Brazil problems."

Sheringham goes to France as England's first-choice partner for Alan Shearer despite his much publicised revels on the Algarve. But Hoddle has told the Manchester United striker that he is effectively on trial before their opener with Tunisia next Monday — and beyond.

Hoddle hinted, despite Michael Owen's rising stock, that Sheringham would start ahead of the Liverpool teenager in Marseille. "You've got to look at other things and it won't be a scenario based on this week," he said. "I've seen what Teddy's done over the years as an international player."

But Hoddle added: "I will watch closely in training over the next 10 days to see how sharp he looks. But it'll be no different to the way I assess Gareth Southgate and Martin Keown."

Hoddle did not consider dropping the 32-year-old Sheringham from his squad and it appears the player partially redeemed himself with his fulsome apology for partying until dawn during the three-day pre-tournament break.

Nevertheless Hoddle was outraged by the incident, demanded a public apology and got one when a sheepish Sheringham read a statement at Bisham Abbey in which he admitted "a lack of professionalism".

He added: "If people read that I was out until 6am it sounds disgraceful, and I admit that . . . I know it's come across that I've been a fool and, when I got back and read the papers, it crossed my mind that what had happened to Paul [Gascoigne] could happen to me."

Hoddle eased Sheringham's worries by predicting that he and Owen will "have a big say in this World Cup, if they're injury free. Michael and Teddy are very, very diverse in their style of play and I think that gives us an added dimension". The coach clearly intends to use both, with Owen's pace — and dedicated approach — poised ultimately to supplant a ponderous Sheringham.

Arsenal bid for De Boer rejected by Ajax

AJAX have rejected an Arsenal bid of £9 million for the Dutch international midfielder Ronald de Boer. "A transfer is out of the question and will stay that way," an official for the Amsterdam club said yesterday.

De Boer has a contract which ties him to Ajax until 2004 but has made no secret of his wish for a move. "Until that time [2004], we will not let him go, whatever offers we get," the spokesman added.

Brian Laudrup's appearances in the World Cup will be made as a Chelsea player after the Dane put pen to paper in Copenhagen on Saturday, six days after his Rangers contract expired.

Rangers are still seeking compensation for the 29-year-old, who signed a three-year deal under the Bosman ruling after Chelsea's managing director Colin Hutchinson met him in the Danish capital.

"We've decided that he should sign because his contract at Rangers expired on May 31 and he could have been going to the World Cup not attached to any club," Hutchinson said. "We thought all the speculation should be removed."

West Ham have offered John Hartson a £5 million deal which will make him their highest-paid player. The deal, worth more than £15,000 a week, will tie the Welshman to Upton Park for seven years.

Hartson, a Blackburn target before they bought Southampton's Kevin Davies, is aware that West Ham valued him at £10 million and hung out for more than a three-year extension to his current deal, which has three years to run.

"We are much closer together now and I feel I will sign the new offer," Hartson said. "I do not want to leave but, if I am going to stay with the club until I am nearly 31, then the deal has to be right."

David Sheepshanks has praised the Nationwide League clubs' "unprecedented unity" after 69 of the 72 at Saturday's annual general meeting backed what the chairman described as "a package of change" and so prevented a possible breakaway league being formed.

Telford have avoided relegation to the Dr Martens League after Slough pulled out of the Vauxhall Conference. The directors of Slough, who finished ninth last season, said the club could not guarantee fulfilling their commitments.

Tennis

Moya kicks on the dirt

Stephen Bierley in Paris

THE first drunken Scotsman has been spotted in the city centre while a couple of footballs, signed by Pele, were hoofed into the crowd here at Roland Garros yesterday after the men's singles final completed a Spanish double. Goodbye tennis, hello soccer.

Carlos Moya caught the impending mood just before the women's final on Saturday when he played a prolonged game of tennis football on the Centre-Court. And very accomplished he looked.

Similarly so yesterday. The 21-year-old from Palma won his first Grand Slam title with a 6-3, 7-5, 6-3 victory over his fellow Spaniard Alex Corretja. This was not a match to linger in the memory, although it may have considerable significance for Moya.

This 6ft 3in right-hander, first drew international attention at the 1997 Australian Open when he knocked out the holder, Germany's Boris Becker, in the first round and went on to reach the final, where he lost to Pete Sampras.

This rush to fame took its toll, Moya failing to get past the second round of his next four Grand Slams. He rediscovered his touch at the start of this year's clay-court season, reaching the semi-finals in Estoril and Barcelona before winning in Monte Carlo.

Yet Moya is no mere clay-court specialist, as he showed at Melbourne. He has a good serve, a devastating forehand and is more than capable at the net. This victory could see him make a concerted push for the No. 1 spot, although not until after Wimbledon.

Seeded No. 12, Moya moved quietly through to the last eight here, dropping only one set. By then, after the carnage of the first week that left him the second-highest seed remaining, his quarter-final against Marcelo Rios, seeded No. 3, had the look of a match likely to decide the title.

Rios was the pre-tournament favourite but Moya, playing one of the clay-court matches of his life, won 6-3, 7-5, 3-6, 6-4 against the Chilean. Two friends, Felix Mantilla and Corretja, stood between Moya and the Paris crown.

Like the four musketeers, the Spaniards practise an all-for-one-and-one-for-all policy, aiming to raise their country's tennis prestige and prowess.

Prior to this tournament Corretja's best Grand Slam run was at the 1996 US Open, when he lost an epic four-hour quarter-final marathon against Sampras. He demonstrated his appetite for long matches again here with his third-round victory over Hernan Gumy of Argentina lasting a record 5hr 31 min.

Corretja, three years older than Moya, had won two of their previous three meetings, although lost to him in Monte Carlo this year.

The first set yesterday seemed likely to be conclusive and both men displayed nerves. However, it was Moya who began to impose his greater range and weight of shots, while Corretja never reproduced his best form.

Moya missed one match-point at 5-2 before serving out for the title and dropping spreadeagled on the red dirt. Corretja leapt over the net to embrace him and, in turn, they were hugged by Pele who presented the trophy.

Pele also produced two World Cup footballs, indulged in a spot of head tennis with both players and then watched as they kicked the balls into the crowd. Moya appeared a touch reluctant, as if a football signed by Pele was too precious to release.

And so another French Open was over. King Clay is dead in France. Long live King Football.

Graf returns with a view to Wimbledon

STEFFI GRAF, seven times Wimbledon champion who has played only two tournaments in 12 months because of injury, will this week make her latest attempt at a comeback when she contests the DFS Classic which starts today in Birmingham.

Graf, who will be 29 on June 14, underwent knee surgery shortly after playing in the French Open last June but aggravated the injury in February. She slipped off the world rankings list today for the first time since January 1983.

The German was given a wild card to play at Edgbaston Priory and, if all goes well, she will move on to Eastbourne before making her 13th appearance at Wimbledon, which she first won in 1988.

Four Britons, Chris Wilkinson, Mark Petchey, Andrew Richardson and Martin Lee, will be in action when the Stella Artois Championships begin at Queen's Club today while the No. 2 seed Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman, seeded seventh, have first-round byes, as does the top seed Pete Sampras.

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Sunday scoreboard

AXA League

YORKSHIRE 0
LEICESTERSHIRE 4

Headingley: Leicestershire won by eight wickets.

YORKSHIRE
M P Vaughan c Nixon b Wells 14
M J Wood c Nixon b Ormond 0
*D Byas c Ormond b Lewis 1
C White c Nixon b Ormond 3
A McGrath c Nixon b Ormond 0
B Parker c Williamson b Wells 9
†R J Blakey c Simmons b Lewis 29
G M Hamilton lbw b Williamson 18
C E W Silverwood lbw b Williamson 0
P M Hutchison c Dakin b Williamson 1
R J Sidebottom not out 0
Extras (lb1, lb3, w12, nb2) 18
Total (38.1 overs) 93
Fall of wickets: 9, 10, 25, 25, 29, 53, 78, 78, 93.
Bowling: Lewis 8-2-14-2; Ormond 8-2-16-3; Wells 8-1-28-2; Simmons 8-2-19-0; Williamson 6.1-1-12-3.

LEICESTERSHIRE
P V Simmons c Hamilton b Silverwood 16
V J Wells c Blakey b Hamilton 38
B F Smith not out 15
*C C Lewis not out 27
Extras 0
Total (for 2, 22.2 overs) 96
Fall of wickets: 53, 60.
Did not bat: D L Maddy, A Habib, J M Dakin, †P A Nixon, D Williamson, J Ormond, T J Mason.
Bowling: Silverwood 6-1-30-1; Hutchison 3-0-17-0; White 3-1-10-0; Hamilton 5.2-1-23-1; Sidebottom 5-1-16-0.
Umpires: D J Constant and R Julian.

KENT 2
SUSSEX 2

Tunbridge Wells: Match drawn (rain stopped play)

SUSSEX
K Newell b Headley 14
*C J Adams run out 14
M Newell c Hooper b Headley 1
M G Bevan not out 4
J R Carpenter c Marsh b Phillips 2
M T E Peirce not out 0
Extras (lb2, w9, nb4) 15
Total (for 4, 13.1 overs) 50
Fall of wickets: 29, 39, 39, 49.
Did not bat: A D Edwards, †S Humphries, R J Kirtley, P W Jarvis, M A Robinson.
Bowling: Headley 5-0-11-2; Phillips 4-0-24-1; McCague 4.1-1-13-0.
KENT: R W T Key, T R Ward, C L Hooper, A P Wells, M J Walker, G R Cowdrey, †S A Marsh, M V Fleming, B J Phillips, M J McCague, D W Headley.
Umpires: B Leadbeater and J W Holder.

MIDDLESEX 4
DURHAM 0

Lord's: Middlesex won by three wickets.

DURHAM
S Hutton lbw b Hewitt 9
†M P Speight c Nash b Hewitt 14
N J Speak c & b Rashid 36
*D C Boon c Hewitt b Fraser 5
P D Collingwood c Shah b Fraser 2
J J B Lewis c Nash b Dutch 1
M J Foster c Nash b Fraser 70
N C Phillips c Dutch b Fraser 5
M M Betts c Langer b Weekes 1
J Wood not out 1
N Killeen not out 0
Extras (b2, lb8, w5) 15
Total (for 9, 34 overs) 160
Fall of wickets: 26, 31, 42, 54, 55, 104, 151, 153, 158.
Bowling: Hewitt 7-0-25-2; Blanchett 4-1-13-0; Fraser 6-0-19-4; Dutch 6-0-29-1; Rashid 7-0-35-1; Weekes 4-0-29-1.

MIDDLESEX
A G J Fraser b Betts 5
*J L Langer lbw b Phillips 46
O A Shah lbw b Betts 3
P N Weekes c Boon b Foster 24
J C Pooley run out 13
†D C Nash b Betts 33
R A Kettleborough run out 17
K P Dutch not out 1
J P Hewitt not out 5
Extras (lb7, w9) 16
Total (for 7, 33.4 overs) 163
Fall of wickets: 15, 24, 71, 83, 108, 157, 157.
Did not bat: I N Blanchett, U B A Rashid.
Bowling: Betts 7-0-34-3; Wood 7-0-31-0; Killeen 6.4-0-39-0, Phillips 7-0-30-1; Foster 6-0-22-1.
Umpires: J C Balderstone and M J Kitchen.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 0
LANCASHIRE 4

Northampton: Lancashire won by seven wickets.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
M B Loye c Yates b Martin 0
†R J Warren c Fairbrother b Wasim 17
D J Capel b Martin 0
*K M Curran b Austin 0
A L Penberthy b Martin 6
D J G Sales c Lloyd b Green 4
R J Bailey b Flintoff 23
T C Walton not out 51
J N Snape not out 19
Extras (lb3, w2) 5
Total (for 7, 22 overs) 125
Fall of wickets: 0, 0, 1, 12, 23, 29, 60.
Did not bat: F A Rose, D Follett.
Bowling: Martin 5-1-26-3, Austin 4-0-21-1; Wasim 5-0-21-1; Green 4-0-28-1; Flintoff 3-0-11-1; Yates 1-0-15-0.

LANCASHIRE
A Flintoff b Follett 10
P C McKeown c Warren b Rose 0
N H Fairbrother not out 58
G D Lloyd c Follett b Capel 19
M Watkinson not out 28
Extras (lb5, w2, nb5) 12
Total (for 3, 20.5 overs) 127
Fall of wickets: 3, 23, 78.
Did not bat: *Wasim Akram, †W K Hegg, I D Austin, G Yates, R J Green, P J Martin.
Bowling: Rose 4.5-0-30-1; Follett 5-0-27-1; Capel 4-0-30-1; Penberthy 3-0-14-0; Snape 4-0-21-0.
Umpires: M J Harris and G Sharp.

HAMPSHIRE 4
GLAMORGAN 0

Southampton: Hampshire won by 130 runs.

HAMPSHIRE
G W White c Evans b Watkin 76
J P Stephenson c Powell b Thomas 7
*R A Smith b Cosker 103
A D Mascarenhas b Cosker 7
N A M McLean not out 24
S D Udal lbw b Thomas 0
P R Whitaker not out 17
Extras (lb3, w10, nb2) 15
Total (for 5, 33 overs) 249
Fall of wickets: 29, 190, 197, 202, 203.
Did not bat: D A Kenway, K D James, †A N Aymes, P J Hartley.
Bowling: Thomas 6-0-44-2; Butcher 6-0-43-0; Cosker 7-0-52-2; Watkin 7-0-44-1; Dale 4-0-34-0, Cottey 3-0-29-0.

GLAMORGAN
S P James c White b Hartley 4
*M P Maynard b Hartley 11
A Dale c James b McLean 25
P A Cottey b Hartley 15
M J Powell c Stephenson b Mascarenhas 16
G P Butcher b McLean 2
†A D Shaw c White b Mascarenhas 16
A W Evans c Mascarenhas b Udal 5
S D Thomas b Udal 3
S L Watkin b Mascarenhas 2
D A Cosker not out 2
Extras (lb4, w4, nb7) 15
Total (for , 22.1 overs) 119
Fall of wickets: 19, 20, 62, 64, 67, 98, 107, 111, 116.
Bowling: James 4-0-22-0; Hartley 7-0-38-3; McLean 4-0-27-2; Udal 4-0-19-2; Mascarenhas 3.1-1-9-3.
Umpires: T E Jesty and K E Palmer.

Starting today

COSTCUTTER CUP SEMI-FINAL (11.0): **Harrogate:** International XI v Scotland.
AON TROPHY: Dasstalls Derbyshire v Yorkshire. **Maidstone:** Kent v Sussex. **Worksop College:** Nottinghamshire v Lancashire.
MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (two days): **Barrow:** Cumberland v Norfolk.

No play, rain
(2pts awarded to each side)

Chesterfield: Derbyshire v Gloucestershire.

League Table

	P	W	L	D	Nr	Pts
Middx (16)	7	5	1	0	1	22
Yorks (10)	7	5	2	0	0	20
Essex (7)	7	4	1	1	1	20
Kent (2)	6	4	1	0	1	18
Lancs (3)	6	4	1	0	1	18
Hants (15)	6	4	2	0	0	16
Som (6)	7	3	3	1	0	14
Warks (1)	6	3	2	0	1	14
Derbys (14)	7	3	3	0	1	14
Leics (4)	6	3	3	0	0	12
Durham (17)	7	2	3	1	1	12
Gloucs (11)	7	2	3	0	2	12
Notts (12)	6	2	3	1	0	10
Sussex (18)	7	2	4	0	1	10
Northts (8)	7	1	5	0	1	6
Worcs (8)	5	1	3	0	1	6
Glam (13)	7	1	5	0	1	6
Surrey (5)	6	0	4	0	1	2

1997 positions in brackets

Second Test

Galle: New Zealand 193 and 114 (Bandaratilake 5-36, Muralitharan 3-24). Sri Lanka 323 (M Jayawardena 167; Vettori 4-88). Sri Lanka won by an innings and 16 runs (three-test series 1-1).

THE Hampshire captain Robin Smith hit a match-winning 103 in his team's 130-run over Glamorgan at Southampton yesterday.

Smith shared in a stand of 164 for the second wicket with opening batsman, Giles White, whose 76 was his best in the competition.

His captain, though, making his first century for two seasons, was the dominant partner, hitting a six each off Glamorgan's bowlers Dean Cosker and Tony Cottey before left-arm orthodox got some measure of revenge when he bowled him.

The West Indies fast bowler, Nixon McLean, showed his prowess with a bat as he lifted a delivery from Glamorgan's right-arm bowler Adrian Dale on to the roof of adjoining flats as Hampshire raced to a massive 249 for five from 33 overs after rain had delayed the start.

Veteran former Yorkshire and Warwickshire seamer Peter Hartley made sure the Glamorgan reply got off to a poor start. He dismissed both Steve James and Matthew Maynard in his second over.

Hartley continued his good run by then removing Tony Cottey to finish with figures of three for 38.

Only Adrian Dale offered much resistance with a plucky innings of 25, but Glamorgan collapsed against the medium pace of Dimitri Mascarenhas, who finished with three for nine.

Glamorgan collapsed to 119 all out at the start of the 23rd over as Hampshire recorded their fourth win of the season with some ease.

Saturday scoreboard

Britannic Assurance County Championship

SURREY 23
WORCESTERSHIRE 5

The Oval: Surrey won by 79 runs.
Surrey: First innings 502-7 dec (N Shahid 124, J D Ratcliffe 100, A D Brown 72, I J Ward 64, B C Hollioake 51).

WORCESTERSHIRE
First innings (overnight: 366-9)
R K Illingworth not out 45
A Sheriyar c Batty b Bicknell 11
Extras (b3, lb22, w2, nb26) 53
Total (146.4 overs) 367
Fall of wicket cont: 329
Score at 120 overs: 8-311.
Bowling: Bicknell 24.4-7-61-3, Tudor 11-0-61-2; Saqlain 60-17-116-4; Salisbury 50-19-100-1; A J Hollioake 1-0-4-0.

SURREY
Second innings
J D Ratcliffe c Newport b Sheriyar 9
I J Ward b Leatherdale 58
N Shahid c Rhodes b Newport 9
*A J Hollioake lbw b Leatherdale 47
A D Brown not out 0
B C Hollioake not out 1
Extras (b2, lb2, w2) 6
Total (for 4 dec, 26 overs) 130
Fall of wickets: 15, 35, 128, 129.
Did not bat: †J N Batty, I D K Salisbury, A J Tudor, M P Bicknell, Saqlain Mushtaq.
Bowling: Newport 5-1-15-1; Sheriyar 6-1-31-1, Illingworth 8-1-43-0; Lampitt 4-0-25-0; Leatherdale 3-0-12-2.

WORCESTERSHIRE
Second innings
V S Solanki b Tudor 4
A Hafeez c Shahid b Saqlain 30
G A Hick lbw b Saqlain 22
G R Haynes c Brown b Saqlain 9
*T M Moody c Batty b Salisbury 62
D A Leatherdale c Brown b Saqlain 9
†S J Rhodes b Saqlain 1
S R Lampitt c Brown b Saqlain 7
R K Illingworth lbw b Saqlain 7
P J Newport c Shahid b Salisbury 19
A Sheriyar not out 0
Extras (b4, lb2, nb10) 16
Total (66.5 overs) 186
Fall of wickets: 7, 51, 73, 74, 92, 98, 128, 160, 168.
Bowling: Bicknell 6-3-19-0; Tudor 8-0-39-1; Saqlain 28-11-41-7; Salisbury 24.5-6-81-2.
Umpires: J W Lloyds and A G T Whitehead.

DERBYSHIRE 7
GLOUCESTERSHIRE 11

Chesterfield: Match drawn.
Gloucestershire: First innings 459-8 dec (M G N Windows 143, T H C Hancock 94, J Lewis 54 no, D R Hewson 52).

DERBYSHIRE
First innings overnight: 281-9
M E Cassar not out 78
K J Dean c Ball b Lewis 1
Extras (lb4, w2, nb28) 34
Total (78.3 overs) 295
Fall of wicket cont: 279
Bowling: Walsh 20-3-78-2; Smith 17-2-59-1; Lewis 21.3-7-48-6; Ball 7-2-45-0; Alleyne 13-2-63-1.

DERBYSHIRE
Second innings
A S Rollins c Smith b Lewis 107
M J Slater c Russell b Lewis 31
T A Tweats c Russell b Alleyne 0
K J Barnett c Russell b Walsh 28
M R May c Russell b Alleyne 54
M E Cassar not out 22
*†K M Krikken not out 12
Extras (b3, lb15, nb28) 46
Total (for 5 dec, 71 overs) 300
Fall of wickets: 73, 74, 158, 244, 266.
Did not bat: P A J DeFreitas, S J Lacey, P Aldred, K J Dean
Bowling: Walsh 12-0-67-1; Smith 6-1-31-0; Alleyne 11-2-33-2; Lewis 17-2-61-2; Ball 20-2-50-0; Macmillan 5-2-14-0.
Umpires: B Dudleston and A A Jones.

HAMPSHIRE 23
GLAMORGAN 4

Southampton: Hampshire won by nine wickets.
Glamorgan: First innings 269 (A Dale 92, M J Powell 52; A D Mascarenhas 4-68).
Hampshire: First innings 471 (A N Aymes 120, R A Smith 84, P R Whitaker 74, G W White 56).

GLAMORGAN
Second innings (overnight: 127-5).
A W Evans c Aymes b Stephenson 87
O T Parkin b McLean 3
G P Butcher c Aymes b Hartley 85
†A D Shaw c Mascarenhas b Stephenson 3
S D Thomas c White b Mascarenhas 18
S L Watkin not out 2
Extras (lb7, nb18) 25
Total (92.1 overs) 285
Fall of wickets cont: 141, 191, 211, 254.
Bowling: McLean 22-2-87-1; Hartley 21.1-3-77-4; James 19-5-51-1; Mascarenhas 9-2-31-1, Udal 4-0-8-0; Whitaker 2-0-2-1; Stephenson 15-7-22-2

HAMPSHIRE
Second innings
G W White not out 27
J P Stephenson c Maynard b Watkin 21
P R Whitaker not out 25
Extras (b5, lb2, nb4) 11
Total (for 1, 23.1 overs) 84
Fall of wickets: 43.
Did not bat: *R A Smith, M Keech, †A N Aymes, A D Mascarenhas, S D Udal, K D James, N A M McLean, P J Hartley.
Bowling: Watkin 8-0-28-1; Parkin 8-2-21-0; Thomas 4-0-14-0; Butcher 3.1-0-14-0
Umpires: T E Jesty and K E Palmer.

ESSEX 10
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE 9

Ilford: Match drawn.
Nottinghamshire: First innings 342 (P Johnson 95, G F Archer 63; M C Ilott 4-62).
Essex: First innings 322 (S G Law 108, S D Peters 64, I N Flanagan 57).

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Second innings (overnight: 173-4)
G F Archer c S G Law b Ilott 69
N A Gie lbw b Cowan 18
P J Franks c Cowan b Such 34
†C M W Read c Flanagan b Irani 28
P A Strang c Cowan b Such 14
M N Bowen not out 8
A R Oram not out 0
Extras (b1, lb8, nb12) 21
Total (for 9 dec, 84.2 overs) 279
Fall of wickets cont: 180, 198, 252, 271, 271.
Bowling: Ilott 18-6-33-1; Cowan 15-5-70-1; Irani 10-1-50-2; Such 32-11-73-5, Grayson 8.2-1-44-0.

ESSEX
Second innings
D D J Robinson c Strang b Oram 0
I N Flanagan c Robinson b Strang 33
A P Grayson c Read b Oram 3
*S G Law lbw b Bowen 22
R C Irani c Archer b Franks 27
S D Peters not out 53
†R J Rollins c Dowman b Strang 13
D R Law c Gie b Bowen 22
A P Cowan c Robinson b Strang 1
M C Ilott not out 0
Extras (b9, lb15) 24
Total (for 8, 73.5 overs) 198
Fall of wickets: 14, 34, 70, 70, 125, 148, 195, 197.
Did not bat: P M Such.
Bowling: Oram 13-5-27-2; Franks 14-3-61-1; Strang 28-14-41-3; Bowen 11-3-28-2; Afzaal 5.5-1-11-0; Dowman 2-0-6-0.
Umpires: R Palmer and A Clarkson.

KENT 5
SUSSEX 20

Tunbridge Wells: Sussex won by 75 runs.
Sussex: First innings 189 (S Humphries 66; Fleming 4-24).
Kent: First innings 211 (Lewry 4-65).

SUSSEX
Second innings (overnight: 265-5)
K Newell not out 40
A D Edwards lbw b Fleming 4
†S Humphries c Hooper b Fleming 3
R J Kirtley not out 18
Extras (b5, lb19, w10) 34
Total (for 7 dec, 116 overs) 303
Fall of wickets cont: 265, 271.
Did not bat: M A Robinson, J D Lewry.
Bowling: Phillips 15-1-38-1; Igglesden 17-1-60-0; Fleming 33-10-76-3; Hooper 23-7-48-0; Patel 28-8-57-3.

KENT
Second innings
D P Fulton c Humphries b Robinson 37
R W T Key c Humphries b Edwards 17
T R Ward c Adams b Robinson 8
C L Hooper c Bevan b Edwards 49
A P Wells run out 4
M J Walker c Newell b Bevan 21
M V Fleming not out 41
*†S A Marsh c Edwards b Kirtley 5
B J Phillips c Edwards b Kirtley 2
M M Patel c Bevan b Kirtley 5
A P Igglesden b Kirtley 0
Extras (lb4, w5, nb4) 13
Total (61.3 overs) 206
Fall of wickets: 37, 61, 98, 123, 123, 170, 182, 188, 206.
Bowling: Lewry 9-1-32-0; Kirtley 10.3-4-19-4; Edwards 15-3-60-2; Robinson 16-5-34-2; Bevan 11-1-57-1.
Umpires: B Leadbeater and J W Holder.

MIDDLESEX 7
DURHAM 23

Lord's: Durham won by one wicket.
Middlesex: First innings 335 (P N Weekes 95 no, J P Hewitt 53; Harmison 4-88, Betts 4-85).
Durham: First innings 312 (D C Boon 68, J J B Lewis 68, P D Collingwood 65; Bloomfield 5-98).

MIDDLESEX
Second innings (overnight: 139-6)
P N Weekes not out 51
J P Hewitt c Gough b Harmison 19
I N Blanchett c Speight b Betts 1
P C R Tufnell c Speight b Wood 19
T F Bloomfield lbw b Betts 0
Extras (b6, lb5, nb17) 30
Total (67 overs) 216
Fall of wickets cont: 151, 158, 213.
Bowling: Betts 19-4-52-5; Wood 9-3-20-1; Harmison 20-4-57-3; Phillips 12-1-52-0; Foster 7-2-22-1.

DURHAM
Second innings
J J B Lewis c Weekes b Hewitt 8
M A Gough c Gatting b Tufnell 66
N J Speak c Nash b Bloomfield 0
*D C Boon st Nash b Tufnell 21
P D Collingwood b Bloomfield 35
†M P Speight lbw b Bloomfield 17
M J Foster c Blanchett b Weekes 27
N C Phillips b Hewitt 28
M M Betts not out 29
J Wood c Shah b Tufnell 4
S J Harmison not out 0
Extras (b2, lb11, w2, nb2) 17
Total (for 9, 74.2 overs) 240
Fall of wickets: 10, 11, 50, 111, 137, 149, 191, 219, 226.
Bowling: Hewitt 16-0-59-2; Bloomfield 16-3-43-3; Tufnell 30.2-11-89-3; Weekes 7-0-22-1; Blanchett 3-0-14-0.
Umpires: J C Balderstone and M J Kitchen.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE 10
LANCASHIRE 8

Northampton: Match drawn.
Lancashire: First innings 230 (I D Austin 64; Rose 5-69).
Northamptonshire: First innings 332 (M B Loye 148, D Ripley 58; Martin 4-56).

LANCASHIRE
Second innings (overnight: 311-3)
A Flintoff lbw b Taylor 124
G D Lloyd c Ripley b Malcolm 49
M Watkinson lbw b Malcolm 20
†W K Hegg not out 56
I D Austin lbw b Malcolm 0
G Chapple b Malcolm 7
P J Martin not out 7
Extras (b2, lb20, nb2) 24
Total (for 8 dec, 94 overs) 438
Fall of wickets cont: 312, 362, 379, 379, 405.
Did not bat: R J Green.
Bowling: Malcolm 25-0-145-4; Rose 16-0-66-1; Taylor 18-3-61-2; Swann 21-2-90-1; Curran 5-2-17-0; Bailey 1-0-6-0; Penberthy 8-1-41-0.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
Second innings
R R Montgomerie lbw b Austin 21
R J Warren lbw b Chapple 4
M B Loye lbw b Austin 71
R J Bailey c Flintoff b Green 31
*K M Curran not out 90
A L Penberthy c & b Watkinson 18
†D Ripley b Martin 24
G P Swann not out 4
Extras (b4, lb4, nb6) 14
Total (for 6, 83 overs) 274
Fall of wickets: 6, 41, 124, 140, 201, 260.
Did not bat: F A Rose, D E Malcolm, J P Taylor.
Bowling: Martin 16-2-72-1; Chapple 5-0-12-1; Austin 15-5-36-2; Watkinson 16-0-103-1; Green 10-0-41-1.
Umpires: M J Harris and G Sharp.

No play, rain

YORKSHIRE 9
LEICESTERSHIRE 8

Headingley: Match drawn.
LEICESTERSHIRE: First innings 353-9 dec (V J Wells 144, P A Nixon 63).
YORKSHIRE: First innings 273-3 dec (D Byas 116, M P Vaughan 77, M J Wood 52no)
LEICESTERSHIRE: Second innings 78-2.

online

Every Thursday in the
The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

County Championship

	P	W	L	D	Bt	Bwl	Pts	Toss	Form
Surrey	6	4	1	1	20	19	106	5	24/24/5/23/23
Sussex	6	3	1	2	12	23	89	3	11/23/6/9/20
Durham	6	3	2	1	11	23	85	4	4/22/4/22/23
Derbyshire	6	2	3	1	10	20	65	0	2/4/24/4/7
Middlesex	6	2	2	2	12	14	64	3	4/21/9/22/7
Gloucestershire	5	2	2	1	9	20	64	4	4/22/4/23/11
Leicestershire	5	2	0	3	12	11	64	2	3/24/8/21/8
Kent	6	2	2	2	5	19	62	4	4/5/24/4/5
Yorkshire	5	2	2	1	9	18	62	3	23/22/4/4/9
Somerset	5	2	2	1	9	15	59	1	4/5/6/20/24
Worcestershire	5	1	1	3	14	13	52	4	23/3/10/11/5
Glamorgan	5	1	2	2	10	18	50	2	21/7/11/7/4
Notts	6	1	3	2	7	21	50	4	7/6/21/5/9
Northants	5	1	0	4	8	13	49	2	5/5/23/6/10
Lancashire	5	1	1	3	9	14	48	1	3/4/10/23/8
Warwickshire	5	1	3	1	7	18	44	2	10/3/23/4/4
Hampshire	4	1	1	2	6	11	39	3	5/2/9/23
Essex	5	0	3	2	8	18	32	1	4/9/4/5/10

Key: Toss = tosses won; Form = points gained in most recent matches

Leading county averages

DERBYSHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
K J Barnett	6	12	3	553	182	61.44
M E Cassar	5	9	3	251	121	41.83
A S Rollins	6	12	0	394	107	32.83

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
I D Blackwell	31.4	7	88	4	3-38	22.00
P A J DeFreitas	244.5	60	682	24	5-38	27.88
K J Dean	136.3	31	476	17	5-57	28.00

DURHAM

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
P D Collingwood	6	11	2	400	105	44.44
D C Boon	4	8	1	298	107	42.57
M J Foster	4	7	1	248	76*	41.33

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
M M Betts	182.2	45	545	31	9-63	17.58
M J Foster	79	18	229	11	4-41	20.81
S J Harmison	218.5	46	692	28	5-70	24.71

ESSEX

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
S G Law	5	9	0	437	108	48.55
S D Peters	3	6	1	213	64	42.60
I N Flanagan	2	4	0	134	57	33.50

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
M C Ilott	137.4	43	341	15	4-49	22.73
R C Irani	163.3	44	495	20	4-58	24.75
D R Law	89	20	354	11	5-46	32.18

GLAMORGAN

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
M J Powell	3	5	1	300	108	75.00
S P James	5	10	1	538	227	59.77
A Dale	5	9	0	336	92	37.33

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
S L Watkin	185.5	50	507	23	5-30	22.04
G P Butcher	86	15	289	12	4-22	24.08
S D Thomas	163.5	30	559	18	4-37	31.05

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
M G N Windows	3	5	1	310	143	77.50
M W Alleyne	5	9	0	283	56	31.44
R C Russell	5	9	1	241	63*	30.12

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
J Lewis	132.5	27	427	25	6-48	17.08
M C J Ball	121.5	37	294	12	4-72	24.50
C A Walsh	173.5	38	595	23	6-42	25.86

HAMPSHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
A N Aymes	4	6	2	303	133	75.75
A D Mascarenhas	3	5	1	182	63	45.50
S D Udal	4	6	1	198	82	39.60

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
N A M McLean	96	17	337	14	6-101	24.07
A D Mascarenhas	86	12	249	9	4-68	27.66
P J Hartley	84.1	6	294	6	4-77	49.00

KENT

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
C L Hooper	5	9	0	367	133	40.77
D P Fulton	5	9	1	366	98	40.66
A P Wells	5	9	0	325	85	36.11

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
M V Fleming	132.2	37	231	15	4-24	15.40
D W Headley	140.2	34	381	22	6-71	17.31
C L Hooper	160.1	54	343	15	7-93	22.86

LANCASHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
J P Crawley	5	7	2	290	109	58.00
A Flintoff	5	8	2	346	124	57.66
W K Hegg	5	5	1	201	64	50.25

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
M Watkinson	94.4	12	326	14	5-45	23.28
P J Martin	138	34	360	15	4-58	24.00
G Chapple	[illegible]	17	353	14	5-49	25.21

LEICESTERSHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
B F Smith	5	6	2	256	121*	64.00
V J Wells	4	7	1	408	144	68.00
A Habib	5	6	2	210	[illegible]	52.50

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
J Ormond	39.1	9	72	6	5-52	12.00
V J Wells	47	21	88	6	3-19	14.66
A D Mullally	173.3	51	422	22	5-72	19.18

MIDDLESEX

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
J L Langer	6	11	3	801	233*	100.12
M R Ramprakash	4	6	1	396	128*	79.20
M W Gatting	5	8	1	260	83*	37.14

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
M R Ramprakash	31.2	8	81	5	3-32	16.20
A R C Fraser	122.5	27	282	14	4-39	20.14
T F Bloomfield	44.5	3	170	8	5-98	21.25

NORTHANTS

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
M B Loye	5	8	2	680	322*	113.33
D Ripley	5	7	2	383	209	76.60
K M Curran	5	8	4	269	90*	67.25

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
D E Malcolm	152.4	23	614	25	6-54	24.56
J P Taylor	135.5	24	450	15	3-57	30.00
F A Rose	125.5	23	466	12	5-69	38.83

NOTTS

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
G F Archer	2	4	0	187	63	46.75
P Johnson	3	5	1	271	95	38.67
U Afzaal	6	10	2	264	109*	33.00

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
K P Evans	34.5	9	122	6	5-62	20.33
M N Bowen	2[illegible]	51	529	23	5-73	23.04
A R Oram	138.2	42	346	14	3-35	24.71

SOMERSET

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
M N Lathwell	3	5	0	199	91	[illegible]
A R K Pierson	2	5	0	118	71	[illegible]
S C Ecclestone	3	4	0	136	94	34.00

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
M Bulbeck	57	13	180	12	3-16	[illegible]
M E Trescothick	85.3	22	278	11	4-82	[illegible]
A R Caddick	225.1	45	630	24	4-38	[illegible]

SURREY

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
M A Butcher	5	6	1	395	100*	[illegible]
G P Thorpe	4	4	1	235	114	[illegible]
A D Brown	5	6	1	333	155	[illegible]

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
M P Bicknell	150.2	48	396	21	5-27	[illegible]
Saqlain Mushtaq	171.4	53	394	22	7-41	[illegible]
M A Butcher	27	7	89	4	3-35	[illegible]

SUSSEX

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
W G Khan	5	10	1	418	125	[illegible]
C J Adams	4	9	0	393	138	[illegible]
M G Bevan	4	7	0	284	127	[illegible]

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
J D Lewry	160	47	546	23	6-72	[illegible]
K Newell	53.4	20	113	5	3-20	[illegible]
M A Robinson	125.1	29	373	14	4-57	[illegible]

WARWICKSHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
N M K Smith	5	9	0	367	147	40.77
N V Knight	4	7	1	232	100	[illegible]
M J Powell	3	5	1	147	73	36.75

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
A F Giles	42	12	124	6	2-25	[illegible]
E S H Giddins	174.4	38	514	24	6-89	[illegible]
D R Brown	151	40	463	21	5-40	[illegible]

WORCESTERSHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
G A Hick	5	8	0	830	168	[illegible]
T M Moody	4	5	0	284	132	[illegible]
D A Leatherdale	5	7	0	327	137	[illegible]

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
A Sheriyar	139.5	31	473	15	4-60	[illegible]
P J Newport	133	48	337	9	2-52	[illegible]
S R Lampitt	105.2	18	382	10	5-56	[illegible]

YORKSHIRE

Batting	M	I	NO	R	HS	Ave
D Byas	5	8	0	438	116	[illegible]
D Gough	3	4	0	150	89	[illegible]
M J Wood	5	5	1	257	103	[illegible]

Bowling	O	M	R	W	Best	Ave
C White	124.1	30	337	25	8-55	[illegible]
C E W Silverwood	107.3	23	372	16	5-39	[illegible]
D Gough	84.4	17	302	9	3-46	[illegible]

Final analysis

CURRENT FORM

Batting		Inn	NO	Runs	Avge
1	G A Hick	8	0	758	94.75
2	J L Langer	8	2	677	112.83
3	M B Loye	6	1	603	120.60
4	K J Barnett	8	1	422	60.28
5	S P James	6	1	415	83.00
6	V J Wells	7	0	406	58.00
7	D A Leatherdale	7	1	400	66.66
8	M G N Windows	7	1	400	66.66
9	D Ripley	5	0	383	76.60
10	M A Gough	9	0	372	41.33
11	W G Khan	8	1	368	52.57
12	C L Hooper	7	0	362	51.71

Bowling		O	R	W	Avge
1	M M Betts	163	464	25	18.56
2	A D Mullally	133.3	365	22	16.59
3	S Mushtaq	171.4	394	22	17.90
4	J D Lewry	146	426	20	21.30
5	D E Malcolm	109.4	482	19	25.36
6	A R Caddick	157.1	493	19	25.94
7	E S H Giddins	132.2	360	18	20.00
8	P A J DeFreitas	168.3	459	17	27.00
9	I D K Salisbury	151.5	461	17	27.11
10	C White	91.5	244	17	14.35
11	S L Watkin	133.5	374	15	24.93
12	D W Headley	95.3	268	15	17.86

HIGH FLYERS

Batting	Total Runs
1 G A Hick (Worcestershire)	808
2 J L Langer (Middlesex)	801
3 M B Loye (Northants)	694
4 K J Barnett (Derbyshire)	553
5 S P James (Glamorgan)	538
6 D A Leatherdale (Worcestershire)	527
7 D Byas (Yorkshire)	460
8 S G Law (Essex)	437
9 W G Khan (Sussex)	430
10 P D Collingwood (Durham)	424

Bowling	Total Wickets
1 M M Betts (Durham)	31
2 S J Harmison (Durham)	28
3 J Lewis (Gloucs)	26
4 D E Malcolm (Northants)	25
5 C White (Yorkshire)	25
6 E S H Giddins (Warwickshire)	25
7 P A J DeFreitas (Derbyshire)	24
8 A R Caddick (Somerset)	24
9 I D K Salisbury (Surrey)	23
10 C A Walsh (Gloucs)	23

WICKETKEEPERS

	Ct/St	Total
1 M P Speight (Durham)	27/1	28
2 R J Blakey (Yorkshire)	21/0	21
3 A N Aymes (Hampshire)	15/0	15
4 K R Brown (Middlesex)	14/1	15
5 S A Marsh (Kent)	12/3	15

BEST PARTNERSHIPS

1st wicket
Hutton/Gough (Durham v Cam Univ) 227
2nd wicket
Langer/Ramprakash (Midd v Glam) 276*
3rd wicket
Byas/Wood (Yorks v Derbyshire) 230
4th wicket
Barnett/Cassar (Derbys v Sussex) 254
5th wicket
Loye/Ripley (Northants v Glam) 401
6th wicket
Boon/Collingwood (Durham v Warks) 193
7th wicket
Weekes/Hewitt (Midds v Glam) 143
8th wicket
Cork/DeFreitas (Derbys v Sussex) 129
9th wicket
Russell/Smith (Gloucs v Yorks) 114
10th wicket
Foster/Harmison (Durham v Kent) 102

FASTEST HUNDREDS

	Mins	Balls
1 A Brown (v Northnts)	76	72
2 J Rhodes (v Gloucs)	85	78
3 N Smith (v Somerset)	124	89
4 A Brown (v Hants)	136	94
5 C Hooper (v Lancs)	128	99
6 V Wells (v Gloucs)	126	103
7 D Ostler (v Oxford Uni)	130	104
8 A Flintoff (v Northants)	134	106
9 M Powell (v Northants)	139	109
10 N Smith (v Durham)	137	111

BEST BOWLING

Innings
1 C White (Yorkshire v Gloucs) 8-55
2 R J Kirtley (Sussex v Notts) 7-29
3 Saqlain Mushtaq (Surrey v Worcs) 7-41
4 M N Bowen (Notts v Somerset) 7-73
5 R L Johnson (Middx v Somerset) 7-86

Match
1 M Rawnsley (Worcs v Oxford U) 11-116
2 Saqlain Mushtaq (Sy v Worcs) 11-157
3 C E W Silverwood (Yorks v Derbys) 9-80
4 J Lewis (Gloucs v Glamorgan) 9-101
5 C White (Yorkshire v Gloucs) 9-105

BIG HITTERS

	50	100
1 G A Hick (Worcestershire)	1	5
2 J L Langer (Middlesex)	2	3
3 D Byas (Yorkshire)	1	3
4 M R Ramprakash (Middx)	0	3
5 D A Leatherdale (Worcs)	2	2
6 M B Loye (Northants)	2	2
7 M A Butcher (Surrey)	2	2
8 C J Adams (Sussex)	1	2
9 N M K Smith (Warwks)	1	2
10 V J Wells (Leicestershire)	1	2

LOWS & HIGHS

Lowest batting average (min 6 inns)

	I	R	HS	Ave
1 A G Wharf	4	5	3	1.25
2 A R Oram	7	10	4	2.50
3 E S H Giddins	9	12	7	3.00

Highest bowling average (min 20 overs)

	O	R	W	Best	Ave
1 M McCague	43	179	1	1-59	179.00
2 P N Weekes	50	170	1	1-22	170.00
3 A N Janisch	34	155	1	1-30	155.00

DUCK HUNTERS

	Inn.	Ducks
1 M M Betts (Durham)	8	4
2 U Afzaal (Notts)	10	4
3 N J Speak (Durham)	12	4
4 W M Noon (Notts)	5	3
5 D A Cosker (Glamorgan)	7	3

HOW OUT

Bowled/Total
N M K Smith (Warwickshire) 6/9
M W Alleyne (Gloucs) 6/11
I D Blackwell (Derbyshire) 4/7
D P Ostler (Warwickshire) 4/8
A J Harris (Derbyshire) 5/8

Caught/Total
T A Tweats (Derbyshire) 10/13
B C Lara (Warwickshire) 9/9
M T E Peirce (Sussex) 9/12
C J Adams (Sussex) 8/10
P A Cottey (Glamorgan) 8/10

LBW/Total
A J Wright (Gloucs) 5/9
P R Pollard (Notts) 4/6
M E Trescothick (Somerset) 4/8
P D Bowler (Somerset) 4/9
S P James (Glamorgan) 4/9

COUNTY TOTALS

Highest
1 Northants (v Glamorgan) 712
2 Worcestershire (v Middlesex) 627-6d
3 Derbyshire (v Sussex) 593
4 Surrey (v Hampshire) 591
5 Glamorgan (v Northants) 563

Lowest
1 Kent (v Surrey) 85
2 Gloucestershire (v Glamorgan) 89
3 Derbyshire (v Warwickshire) 98
4 Notts (v Derbyshire) 118
5 Cambridge Univ (v Durham) 118

County Championship results and fixtures

APRIL 17
Derbys (24) bt Notts (2) by six wickets
Glamorgan (21) bt Gloucs (4) by 141 runs
Kent (20) bt Middlesex (1) by four wickets
Surrey (7) drew with Northamptonshire (5)
Sussex (20) bt Lancashire (3) by two wickets
Warwickshire (10) drew with Durham (10)
Worcs (23) bt Essex (4) by six wickets
Yorkshire (23) bt Somerset (4) by 215 runs

APRIL 23
Gloucs (22) bt Durham (4) by 46 runs
Essex (5) drew with Sussex (11)
Glamorgan (7) drew with Kent (4)
Hants (5) drew with Northants (5)
Lancashire (4) drew with Middlesex (4)
Leicestershire (3) drew with Worcestershire (3)
Somerset (5) drew with Nottinghamshire (7)
Surrey (24) bt Warks (4) by inns and 49 runs
Yorkshire (22) bt Derbyshire (2) by 111 runs

MAY 13
Warks (23) bt Derbys (4) by inns and 61 runs
Durham v Essex (Riverside)
Leics (24) bt Gloucs (4) by nine wickets
Surrey (24) bt Hants (2) by inns and 184 runs
Kent v Lancashire (Canterbury)
Middlesex v Somerset (Lord's)
Northants (23) bt Yorkshire (4) by eight wickets
Sussex (23) bt Notts (6) by four wickets

MAY 21
Lancashire (23) bt Essex (5) by seven wickets
Gloucs (23) bt Yorks (4) by 300 runs
Kent (24) bt Durham (4) by innings and 27 runs
Leicestershire (8) drew with Hampshire (9)
Middlesex (8) drew with Worcestershire (10)
Northants (6) drew with Glamorgan (11)
Somerset (20) bt Surrey (5) by 165 runs
Derbyshire (24) bt Sussex (6) by seven wickets
Notts (21) bt Warks (4) by six wickets

MAY 29
Durham (22) bt Notts (5) by eight wickets
Leics (21) bt Derbys (4) by 38 runs
Middx (22) bt Glam (7) by nine wickets
Surrey (23) bt Kent (4) by innings and 30 runs
Worcestershire (11) drew with Sussex (9)

JUNE 3
Derbyshire (7) drew with Gloucestershire (11)
Durham (23) bt Middlesex (7) by one wicket
Essex (10) drew with Nottinghamshire (9)
Hants (23) bt Glamorgan (4) by nine wickets
Northants (10) drew with Lancs (8)
Somerset (24) bt Warks (4) by eight wickets
Surrey (23) bt Worcestershire (5) by 79 runs
Sussex (20) bt Kent (5) by 75 runs
Yorkshire (9) drew with Leicestershire (8)

JUNE 11
Durham v Northamptonshire (Riverside)
Essex v Surrey (Chelmsford)
Glamorgan v Worcestershire (Cardiff)
Gloucestershire v Warwickshire (Bristol)
Lancashire v Somerset (Old Trafford)
Leicestershire v Kent (Leicester)
Yorkshire v Hampshire (Headingley)

JUNE 17
Durham v Yorkshire (Riverside)
Glamorgan v Leicestershire (Cardiff)
Hampshire v Derbyshire (Basingstoke)
Kent v Nottinghamshire (Canterbury)
Lancashire v Surrey (Old Trafford)
Northamptonshire v Middlesex (Northampton)
Somerset v Essex (Bath)
Sussex v Warwickshire (Hove)
Worcestershire v Gloucestershire (Worcester)

JUNE 26
Leicestershire v Sussex (Leicester)
Middlesex v Essex (Walker CG, Southgate)
Nottinghamshire v Glamorgan (Trent Bridge)
Somerset v Hampshire (Taunton)
Warwickshire v Lancashire (Edgbaston)

JULY 1
Derbyshire v Essex (Derby)
Durham v Leicestershire (Darlington)
Glamorgan v Surrey (TBC)
Hampshire v Gloucestershire (Southampton)
Kent v Yorkshire (Maidstone)
Nottinghamshire v Middlesex (Trent Bridge)
Sussex v Somerset (Hove)
Worcestershire v Northamptonshire (Worcester)

JULY 14
Gloucestershire v Sussex (Cheltenham)
Lancashire v Worcestershire (Lytham)
Leicestershire v Northamptonshire (Leicester)

JULY 15
Essex v Kent (Southend)
Surrey v Middlesex (Guildford)
Warwickshire v Hampshire (Edgbaston)
Yorkshire v Nottinghamshire (Scarborough)

JULY 22
Glamorgan v Lancashire (Colwyn Bay)
Gloucestershire v Surrey (Cheltenham)
Hampshire v Nottinghamshire (Portsmouth)
Middlesex v Yorkshire (Lord's)
Northamptonshire v Derbyshire (Northampton)
Somerset v Durham (Taunton)

JULY 23
Warwickshire v Essex (Edgbaston)

JULY 30
Derbyshire v Kent (Derby)
Hampshire v Durham (Southampton)
Lancashire v Leicestershire (Old Trafford)
Notts v Northants (Trent Bridge)
Surrey v Sussex (The Oval)
Warwickshire v Glamorgan (Edgbaston)
Worcestershire v Yorkshire (Worcester)

AUGUST 5
Essex v Glamorgan (Chelmsford)
Kent v Hampshire (Canterbury)
Lancashire v Gloucestershire (Old Trafford)
Leicestershire v Somerset (Leicester)
Middlesex v Warwickshire (Lord's)
Sussex v Durham (Eastbourne)
Worcs v Notts (Kidderminster)

AUGUST 6
Surrey v Derbyshire (The Oval)

AUGUST 14
Derbyshire v Worcestershire (Derby)
Durham v Glamorgan (Riverside)
Gloucestershire v Kent (Bristol)
Hampshire v Essex (Portsmouth)
Somerset v Northamptonshire (Taunton)
Sussex v Middlesex (Hove)
Yorkshire v Lancashire (Headingley)

AUGUST 19
Durham v Lancashire (Riverside)
Essex v Gloucestershire (Colchester)
Kent v Worcestershire (Canterbury)
Leicestershire v Middlesex (Leicester)
Northants v Warks (Northampton)
Nottinghamshire v Surrey (Trent Bridge)
Somerset v Derbyshire (Taunton)

AUGUST 20
Glamorgan v Yorkshire (Cardiff)

AUGUST 26
Derbyshire v Durham (Derby)
Northamptonshire v Kent (Northampton)
Nottinghamshire v Leicestershire (Worksop CC)
Sussex v Hampshire (Hove)
Worcestershire v Warwickshire (Worcester)
Yorkshire v Essex (Scarborough)

AUGUST 27
Gloucestershire v Somerset (Bristol)

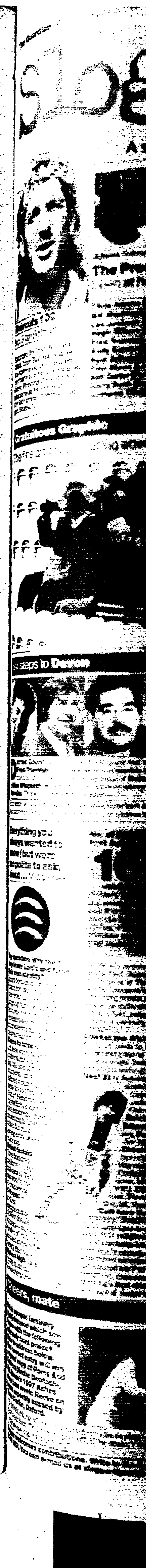
AUGUST 30
Sussex v Glamorgan (Hove)

AUGUST 31
Hampshire v Middlesex (Southampton)

SEPTEMBER 1
Gloucestershire v Northamptonshire (Bristol)
Lancashire v Derbyshire (Old Trafford)
Somerset v Worcestershire (Taunton)
Warwickshire v Leicestershire (Edgbaston)
Yorkshire v Surrey (Headingley)

SEPTEMBER 9
Durham v Surrey (Riverside)
Glamorgan v Derbyshire (Cardiff)
Kent v Somerset (Canterbury)
Leicestershire v Essex (Leicester)
Middlesex v Gloucestershire (Lord's)
Northamptonshire v Sussex (Northampton)
Nottinghamshire v Lancashire (Trent Bridge)
Worcestershire v Hampshire (Worcester)
Yorkshire v Warwickshire (Headingley)

SEPTEMBER 17
Derbyshire v Middlesex (Derby)
Essex v Northamptonshire (Chelmsford)
Glamorgan v Somerset (Cardiff)
Lancashire v Hampshire (Old Trafford)
Notts v Gloucs (Trent Bridge)
Surrey v Leicestershire (The Oval)
Sussex v Yorkshire (Hove)
Warwickshire v Kent (Edgbaston)
Worcestershire v Durham (Worcester)



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Slogger

A side-on glance at cricket





Adams Quincy Wilson Rower Kennedy Marilyn Carter Peanut

The Presidents' XI They would have been at home at the White House

Chris Adams (Sussex)	You can call me Quincy
Bill Washington (Yorks)	Skittled Aussies for 23, by George
Les Jackson (Derbys)	Tough as old hickory
Hugh Wilson (Surrey)	Would row boats on days off
Fred Trueman (Yorks)	Liked to harry batsmen
Andy Kennedy (Lancs)	Marilyn Who?
Paul Johnson (Notts)	Ladybird-loving bitter
Paul Nixon (Leics)	Scrupulously honest toiler
Bob Carter (Northants)	Peanut-loving coach
Harry Bush (Surrey)	Edwardian with CIA connections
Grahame Clinton (Kent)	Never linched, nor inhaled

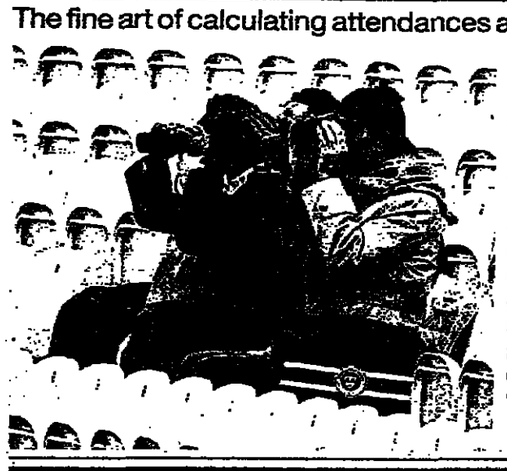
Haircuts 100

No. 3 Ian Botham

Spurned by Iron Maiden in 1985, Iron Bottom vented his spleen on the Aussies en route to a record haul of sixes. Reportedly sued for plagiarism by the estate of the late great Hebrew slogger, Samson.

Gratuitous Graphic

The fine art of calculating attendances at Sussex



The secretary:
1 Guestimates the size of the crowd
2 Subtracts the approximate number of members
3 Multiplies by admission price
4 Compares result to gate receipts
5 Takes away the first number he thought of
6 Eats his calculator
7 Makes it up

Six steps to Devon



Darren Gough is a Yorkshire and England fast bowler with an unfeasibly large bottom, as was **Fred Trueman**, who owns several unfeasibly large pipes, as does **Saddam Hussein**, whose policies upset John Major, as did those of **Norman Lamont**, who shared the same residence as **Miss Whiplash**, whose job involves bits of leather flying in all directions, as does that of **Devon Malcolm**. *(Thanks to Rod Smith, Crawley).*

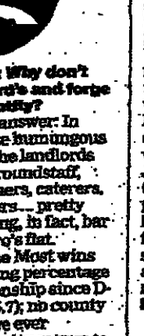
Each week we will print the most ingenious route from a specified personality to Northamptonshire's ageless paceman. Send your contributions to the address below. This week's starting-point: **Allan Donald**

Everything you always wanted to know (but were too polite to ask) about... Middlesex



Key question: Why don't they leave Lord's and forge their own identity?
Smart-bottom answer: In return for those humungous gate receipts, the landlords cough up for groundstaff, stewards, cleaners, caterers, scorecard-sellers... pretty much everything, in fact, bar the overseas pro's flat.
Claims to fame Most wins and best winning percentage in the championship since D-Day (948 and 35.7); no county champions have ever endured a bumpier return to earth (last to 15th, 1991); Elias "Patsy" Hendren, second only to Hobbs with 170 first-class hundreds, invented the batting helmet. Or, rather, his missus did, sewing extra peaks on his cap.
Earliest factoid Three hundred and forty-six, the total runs of Test caps won by the all-conquering 1953 squad — his first championship, NatWest double-winners — was also the number of runs they amassed in their first victory that season.
Highest high Jack Young spinning Gloucestershire out for 100 at Cheltenham to settle the 1947 championship while, over at The Oval, Denis Compton was Brylcreeming South Africa. "It would be difficult," attested John Arlott, referring to Compo's century, "to find a parallel."
Lowest low Whistled out for 23 at Leeds in 1974, the skinniest total in 40-over annals (eight Test stalwarts notwithstanding).
Best XI (v Sussex, 1960 — drew): Brearley (capt), Downton (wkt), Radley, Gatting, Butcher, Barlow, Edmonds, Embrey, Daniel, Van der Bijl, Selvey.
Drivers' Ed Brearley (capt), Haynes, Gatting, Compton, Ben-Aren, Murray (wkt), Edmonds, Timms, Thomson, Daniel, Van der Bijl.
Cult hero Norman "Smokey" Featherstone (left). Que-Que-born, Jo'burg-bred, this religiously undedicated stroke-maister, extremely occasional offie and noted nicotine fiend demanded his P45 in 1972, recanted, then entered 1976 trailing a first-class batting average of under 30, rarer still a bowling average glued to the line. Come September, Middlesex were champs and Smokey was on top of the ol' bowling averages (36 at 15.80).
Heroic failing In one inordinately amiable pre-season friendly with Surrey, with batsmen allowed to carry on for 40 minutes regardless of how often they were out, Smokey took full advantage and was dismissed by each of his first three balls. "It could be said that Middlesex deserved more of him," lamented Wisden upon his release in 1979, "and he of them."





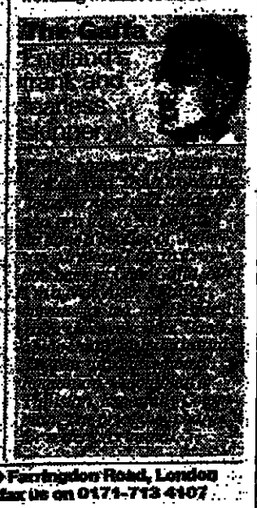
Big shout
Murmurs from the outfield

"I have to remember not to sign my name at the top of the hat."
Mike Atherton on the perils of life in the ranks

"One of the 107 sorry souls who have fallen to my rarely-employed leg-spin."
Athers gets all oneupmanshippy as he recalls his first encounter with Stewie.

If...

...the on-pitch mikes at Faisalabad had gone on the blink, Shakoor Rana would never have misinterpreted Bill Athey's comments about Pakistan, Mike Gatting would never have pulled his finger out, Graham Gooch would never have led England, and David Gower would never have stooped to working with Lee Hurst.



Cheers, mate

Which cricket luminary didn't demand which colleague with the following eminently fulsome praise? Write to address below. Flash correct entry will win a signed copy of Runs And Cricketers (Runs Limited), Rob Steele and Ashley Mote's book about Kent's Lord's triumph in the NatWest final, signed by Runs Chairman Duncan Hamilton.



"If he's thinking of going somewhere else to play, tell him we don't want him. Tell him to piss off. If he doesn't want to be a Yorkshireman we don't want him."

Slogger welcomes contributions. Write to the Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London EC1R 3ER. You can e-mail us at slogger@guardian.co.uk or fax us on 0171-713 4107

Fraser keeps his powder dry

David Hopps at Edgbaston sees an old warhorse set up England's charge



Broken Lance . . . Klusener starts to walk after being caught behind by the prone Stewart for 57 PHOTOGRAPH: RUI VIEIRA

So much has been made of English cricket's squeaky-clean image in the past few months that it was only a matter of time before it became official. The team under instruction to be whiter-than-white is about to sponsor a washing powder.

Tesco has yet to divulge how English cricket will help to market its own-brand washing powder, but perhaps it should be no surprise that a team put through the mangle so often should have finally progressed to automatics. Who says cricket fails to keep up with the times?

A snag, though, has presented itself. Just as the marketing department drools over the seductive catchphrases promised by an extended run of failure — "New Improved Sparkle: disappears down the plughole in no time, just like England" — four days of solid cricket, rounded off last evening by an enterprising flourish, have encouraged thoughts of victory.

That eruption of stroke-play owed much to the initial exertions of Angus Fraser who, in the absence because of injury of Darren Gough, lumbered in staunchly to prise out the first three South African wickets.

Nearly four years have passed since Raymond Illingworth's derisive observation about Fraser that there were times when "we thought that he might not make it back to the end of his run". Well, there were times yesterday when that might have been right. But only a fool would doubt the size of Fraser's heart once he turns round.

His 10th over yesterday, and his 31st of the innings, summed up his lot. Loosening into another spell, two long-hops were thrashed to the boundary in turn by Lance Klusener and Jonty Rhodes. He looked spent, only to summon up enough bounce and movement off the seam to have Rhodes caught off an inside edge.

If advertising bore any relation to the real world, then it would be Fraser's picture that would adorn the England washing powder. "Here are Angus's flannels before we washed them in new Sparkle. Nothing else has ever removed such repulsive sweat and grime. But here they are afterwards. So fresh you can smell the fragrance of an English summer."

But advertising lost touch with actuality years ago. Fraser was never a contender. Even Alec Stewart, England's captain and Mr Squeaky Clean himself, has been overlooked. The face on the packet will be that of Adam Hollioake, who has little chance of playing in the Test side all summer, but who has been identified by the advertising world as English cricket's most marketable star.

If the trial of Hollioake as England's specialist one-day captain is abandoned, it will all just have to come out in the wash.

Another England sponsorship is only to be applauded, especially if the revenue is used for the long-overdue provision of artificial pitches in state schools. What is increasingly apparent, though, is English cricket's partiality — or perhaps need — for in-house deals.

The chairman of the ECB, Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, was a former chairman of Tesco. He is now chairman of Vodafone, sponsors of the England kit, and was on the board when the deal was finalised. Even Simon Pack, the ECB's international teams director, and formerly in charge of the Gibraltar garrison, was member of MacLaurin's golf club at Valderrama.

Perhaps it should be stressed, at this stage, that Ben Spendlove, England's perky young substitute fielder, who took two short leg catches on Saturday, and spilled a devilishly difficult one at long leg yesterday, is not a shelf stacker at Tesco's Uxbridge branch, but a highly promising Derbyshire professional.

Ormond seams in to scuttle Yorkshire

FOUR catches for the Leicestershire wicket-keeper Paul Nixon bore testimony to the seaming nature of a Headingley pitch which undid Yorkshire in their AXA Sunday League match against Leicestershire yesterday.

A career-best three for 16 for the Leicestershire pace-man James Ormond helped scuttle Yorkshire for 93. The visiting batsmen reached the total for the loss of two wickets.

Yorkshire, who surprisingly chose to bat on winning the toss, struggled back from 25 for five and were out within 38.1 overs. It was left to Richard Blakey in alliance with Bradley Parker, and then Gavin Hamilton, to restore some dignity to the innings.

Dominic Williamson, the fifth bowler in an excellent Leicestershire attack, took three late wickets to finish with three for 12.

Leicestershire were given a brisk start by Vince Wells, who hit five fours to dominate an opening stand of 53 in 11 overs with Phil Simmons. Wells made 38 at a run a ball before being caught by Blakey off Hamilton.

Chris Lewis struck four fours and lifted Paul Hutchison for a leg-side six in an unbeaten 27 from 22 balls and Ben Smith played calmly in support to make 15 not out.

Middlesex went to the top of the table by beating Durham by three wickets at Lord's with two balls to spare. In a match reduced by rain to 37 overs per side Alastair Fraser helped restrict Durham to 160 for nine by taking four for 19 from six overs.

Michael Foster hit the left-arm spinner Umer Rashid for a huge six which crashed into the south turret of the Pavilion — one of the biggest hits seen at Lord's. His run-a-ball 70 included the only three fours in Durham's innings.

The wicketkeeper David Nash took Middlesex to the brink of victory with 33 in 35 balls as Middlesex took 22 runs off two overs.

Richard Kettleborough was run out in the final over by Martin Speight as he tried to take a quick bye but a four from James Hewitt gave Middlesex victory.

Neil Fairbrother's one-day expertise earned Lancashire a seven-wicket victory over Northamptonshire at Wantage Road in a match reduced to 22 overs a side by rain.

The left-hander hit an unbeaten 58 from 61 balls to steer his team to their fourth win of the season with seven balls to spare.

Handicapped by a thigh injury and forced to employ a runner, Fairbrother made light of Northants' modest 125 for seven. Mike Watkinson ended the match with a towering six off Franklyn Rose.

Heavy showers saturated the outfield and forced Derbyshire's match against Gloucestershire to be abandoned at Queen's Park.

At Tunbridge Wells Sussex scored 50 for four against Kent before play was abandoned without a result.

Rugby League

Super League: Warrington Wolves 28 Bradford Bulls 10

Bradley gets the elbow

Andy Wilson

GRAEME BRADLEY, Bradford's Australian captain, has been walking a disciplinary tightrope since joining the Bulls two years ago, pushing referees to the limit with his niggling, aggressive style. Last night at Wilderspool he fell off, dismissed in the 24th minute for leading with his elbow into a John Duffy tackle.

Bradford's coach Matthew Elliott said afterwards he was "completely bemused" by the dismissal but insisted: "That may have been the catalyst for us to lose but it wasn't the reason. Warrington just played better".

Warrington's fourth victory in five matches keeps them two points behind fifth-placed St Helens in the battle for play-off places. Bradford, for their part, have now lost four matches, two more than in the whole of last season, and fallen behind third-placed Halifax.

Injury is starting to take its toll of the champions with three players — Paul Anderson, Warren Jowitt and Danny Peacock — already out for the season and James Lowes a late withdrawal yesterday with a knee problem. They are likely to be without Bradley because of suspension for their next match, at home to Wigan on Friday.

Bradley's dismissal came with his team leading 6-0. Tevita Vaikona had scored his eighth try of the season in the second minute, punishing a rare error from Warrington's Australian captain Danny Farrar and a missed tackle by their full-back Lee Penny. Steve McNamara's conversion attempt hit the post but the loose forward extended Bradford's lead with an 11th-minute penalty after Nathan Graham, in for Lowes at hooker, had forced a fumble from Mike Wainwright with a bone-jarring tackle.

But by half-time Warrington were 18–10 ahead, largely thanks to the wonderful handling of Mark Forster who marked his 400th appearance for his only club with two brilliantly-finished tries.

Steve McCurrie, returning to league fitness after his stint in union with Bedford, had scored Warrington's first within two minutes of Bradley's departure, taking Farrar's pass and proving unstoppable from close range. But the next two owed almost everything to Forster.

First he picked a Farrar pass off his bootlaces to squeeze over in the corner, then he won the race to a kick ahead from his captain and grounded the ball while somehow staying in play. Jon Roper, again impressive at stand-off, converted both and though Matt Calland scored for Bradford, Warrington were in control.

They tightened their grip within three minutes of the restart, Wainwright dummying and striding between Sonny Nickle and Robbie Paul after Jeremy Donougher lost the ball in his own half.

Excellent defending from McCurrie then thwarted Bradford twice within three minutes as first he stopped a charge from Mike Forshaw and then held up Stuart Spruce inches from the line.

Roper missed a chance to extend Warrington's lead when he fired a 61st-minute penalty wide but strong drives from the props Mark Hilton and Danny Nutley soon had Bradford on the back foot again and superb crossfield handling, with Penny the key man, allowed Michael Eagar to step over on the left.

Warrington: Penny; Rudd, Kohe-Love, Eagar, Forster; Roper, Duffy; Chambers, Farrar, Nutley, McCurrie, Morley. Wainwright. **Substitutes:** Roche, Hilton, Stevens, Knott.

Bradford: Spruce; Vaikona, Bradley, Calland, Ekoku; Paul, Edwards; McDermott, Graham, Dwyer, Nickle, Forshaw, McNamara. **Substitutes:** Scales, Donougher, Hodgson, Reihana.
Referee: R Smith (Castleford).

Six-try Saints go marching on as the Eagles fall from grace

ST HELENS' decision to keep the Great Britain scrum-half Bobbie Goulding on the sidelines appeared to be vindicated yesterday as they ran in six tries in a 34–12 victory over Castleford at Wheldon Road but for Sheffield, beaten 26–22 at the London Broncos, the season goes from bad to worse.

At the top of the table Wigan kept the pressure on the Super League leaders Leeds by defeating Salford Reds 34–6 at Central Park.

For St Helens, Paul Newlove scored a brace of tries in a game they controlled from the start when Sean Long touched down after 10 minutes. Apollo Perelini, Karle Hammond and Chris Joynt were Saints' other scorers. Castleford, who suffered their third defeat in four games, threatened briefly with a try by Jason Flowers, converted by Jamie Benn.

The Sheffield Eagles remain two points off the bottom after their latest defeat which has raised the London Broncos' play-off hopes. Broncos' captain Peter Gill scored two tries and Wes Cotton, Robbie Beazley and Darren Higgins added one apiece.

Yet but for the kicking of Marcus Vassilakopoulos — he converted just one of seven attempts — the Challenge Cup winners could even have won. Waisale Sovatabua and Darren Shaw kept them in touch until Gill added his second seven minutes from time. Keith Senior scored two late tries for his hat-trick.

Wigan recorded their eighth win in nine league matches against Salford who slumped to their fourth straight defeat.

Lee Gilmour, who will win his England cap against Wales next month, and fellow winger Mark Bell each scored two tries and Danny Moore and Denis Betts were also on the scoresheet. Andy Farrell, the captain, kicked five goal attempts.

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The Guardian INTERACTIVE

Football's governing body chooses its first new president for 24 years today to succeed the autocratic Havelange. Naturally it is a vote of two halves; the result may lie in the rigging. **John Duncan** examines the credentials of Sepp Blatter and Lennart Johansson

Shoot-out for Fifa's fiefdom

BY three o'clock this afternoon there will be knives in backs, the atmosphere will be heavy with political fall-out and one disconsolate candidate will leave the grand Equinox Hall in Paris's 14th *arrondissement* knee-deep in the litter of promises he will never have the chance to break. Fifa presidential elections have always been like this.

The governing body of world football does not have them often — Fifa has had seven presidents since 1904 and two lasted only a year each — but, when it does, they offer up the finest bureaucratic blood sport on the planet.

The electorate is small — only the heads of the 191 eligible member associations of Fifa vote — but the prize on offer is huge and this year bigger than ever: the right to walk into palaces and parliaments and know you are the most powerful man in the most important and richest sport in the world.

The wealth and popularity of modern world football are staggering, with almost enough noughts on the end to make an entire football team. The game internationally has an estimated annual turnover of £150 billion.

The expected income from the 2002 and 2006 World Cups is £2 billion. France 98 will make a profit of £150 million.

This popularity has shown no sign of slowing down. Twelve years ago 13.5 billion people watched the Mexico World Cup on television. Fifa's marketing arm, ISL, estimates this will almost triple in France 98. And, as the popularity goes up, so does the price of association. Companies such as Sony, Canon and JVC have forked out £13 million each to be lead sponsors this year.

Even the fringe players are paying through their corporate noses; Vauxhall have paid ITV £3 million just to sponsor television coverage of the 1998 tournament. The Olympic Movement may claim the moral leadership of world sport but Fifa has run off with the credit card.

Today Dr Joao Havelange, who in his own ruthless, autocratic way made that happen, will step down after 24 years in charge.

Havelange took the helm from Sir Stanley Rous in 1974 after outmanoeuvring the patriarchal Englishman with a slick vote-gathering campaign and a list of promises to smaller nations that he has largely kept: a bigger World Cup with more room for their teams, junior and development tournaments in Africa and Asia, and the promise of commercialism and its consequent trickling down of cash from Europe into their coffers.

He wooed Africa with anti-apartheid sloganising while Rous foolishly opposed a boycott of South Africa.

It was the political grafting that got Sir Stanley in the end. When the vote was taken in Frankfurt before the 1974 World Cup it needed two ballots. Between the two counts Rous sat quietly alone and sipped an orange squash while Havelange worked the room one last time. Rous lost and a new era began.

Whether another new era begins today depends on who wins. Havelange's chosen successor to continue Fifa in the style he has set during his own reign is Sepp Blatter: 62, dapper in a bureaucrat's sort of way, fluent in several languages, general secretary of Fifa since 1982 and very much Havelange's tool.

The pair had one run-in, in 1994 at a Uefa meeting in the Netherlands, when Blatter made an ill-judged attempt to lobby for power against his mentor. It led to sackings and Blatter was humiliatingly barred from the congress that reappointed Havelange. He learned his lesson and survived the sackings that followed the attempted coup. "Forget the Stalinist purges," said Gazzetto dello Sport at the time. "Football seems to be returning to the times of the Inquisition."

Against Blatter is Lennart Johansson, the European candidate, the anti-Havelange man, a plump, ebullient, jovial Swede who has the support of the European federation in his fight to make Fifa more democratic and open.

His distaste for Havelange is obvious in everything he says and the implication of one plank of his manifesto — the immediate commissioning of an independent auditors' report of the financial dealings of Fifa under Havelange — is brutally obvious.

Johansson is the only man who has ever won out over Havelange — he got the Fifa executive to agree that Japan and South Korea should share the 2002 World Cup even though Havelange had personally promised it to Japan.

The battle between the pair, as expected, has not been pretty. Johansson declared his candidature early and immediately started lobbying hard, travelling the world and using his Uefa position to get in among the voters.

He made headway in the horse-trading for votes, promising each of Fifa's members $1 million from every World Cup kitty, obviously of greatest attraction to the numerous poorer Fifa nations in Africa, who are likely to hold the balance of power today.

He was unanimously endorsed by Uefa at its congress in Dublin this year and the occasion could hardly have been more sickeningly laudatory if it had been organised for Brezhnev by the Kremlin.

The standing ovation was over-long and the gushing tributes were saccharine sweet.

Johansson appeared under a spotlight as My Way blared out of the PA system and a message of support from Pele brought tears to his eyes. Uefa, dominated by the Germans, was sick of Havelange and his pandering to minor football powers and it wanted its own man in charge.

This allowed no one to step out of line.

Johansson claimed the support of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean for a proposal he called Visions, which would see the World Cup and the presidency rotate every four years between four regions — Europe, Africa, the Americas and Asia — thus guaranteeing Africa a tournament every 16 years starting in 2006.

It was a clever move, especially given Havelange's wounded credibility in Africa after he visited Nigeria just as the regime was attracting world opprobrium for the hanging of Ken Saro-Wiwa. It looked as if, for the first time in two decades, someone other than Havelange had the African-made key to power.

But he lost it in an instant. Speaking — off the record to a Swedish journalist — about a visit to the African continent, he was quoted as saying: "When I got to South Africa the whole room was full of blackies and it's so fucking dark when they sit down altogether.

What's more, it's no fucking fun when they're angry." Johansson did not deny the remark but claimed the problem lay in the translation. The damage was done, however; even if it was not intentionally racist it was politically inept, a far worse crime in the world of sports bureaucracy.

He has since hit other buffers. His campaign is regarded as tatty — the photos in his brochure look like out-of-focus holiday snaps — and, by insiders, ill-organised and his personal appeal is limited.

He does not speak French, is regarded as thoroughly in the pocket of the Germans and his enjoyment of the occasional drink has been noted by his opponents.

JOHANSSON also lost the political battle with Blatter. The Uefa man tried to have him declare early but the Swiss refused because doing so would have put him under pressure to resign from Fifa. Johansson was furious. "I am running, I am not running, maybe I will run," the Swede barked. "This is a game that girls play with daisies: he loves me, he loves me not. What kind of style is that?"

The Europeans tried to force the issue at a special executive meeting but, when a vote looked likely to take place, Havelange stood up and walked out of the room, thereby closing the meeting.

The waiting game has paid off. Blatter has been able to declare at the last minute, having organised the World Cup and had access to the patronage and favours that come with it in the run-up to the finals. He now looks the fresher voice and the favourite.

His personal skills have been put to good use abroad and he is weakening Johansson in Europe, where he is playing the anti-German resentment to a T and will get the votes of France and probably England.

Blatter is no angel. The German journalist Thomas Kistner has just published a book, The Billion Dollar Game, which makes a series of accusations about the financial relationship between Havelange, Blatter and Fifa; over how television deals have been dished out, over the distribution of favours by the pair and over the web of relationships that bind Fifa together and which, say Blatter's critics, have allowed the president to run the organisation like a private fiefdom. Havelange's son-in-law is head of the Brazilian federation.

Fifa has not yet even decided exactly how the vote will be conducted. It is likely that in time-honoured tradition each country will be called by name and delegates will walk sombrely to the front of the hall and put their ballot paper in a box at the top table. The votes will then be counted and the game will have a new master. A month later the winner will stand at the Stade de France and present the trophy to the World Cup winners knowing that, whoever he hands the trophy to — the captain of the victorious team — the biggest prize in world football is already in his own pocket.

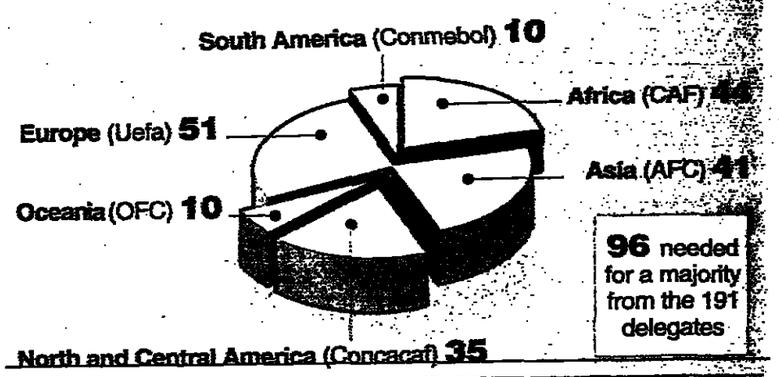
Sepp Blatter

Age 62
Born March 10, 1936
Birthplace Visp, Switzerland
Appearance Smart Eurocrat
Current job General secretary of Fifa

Route to the top
1964 Appointed general secretary of the Swiss Ice Hockey Federation.
1970 Director of sports timing and public relations for Longines; involved in the organisation of the 1972 and 1976 Olympic Games.
1975 Appointed Fifa's director of technical development programmes, putting president João Havelange's projects (under-21, under-17 world competitions) into motion.
1981 Appointed Fifa general secretary.
1990 Appointed Fifa chief executive officer.

Football credentials
Amateur forward and player-coach of Visp in 1964-65.
What his friends say
A capable, personable fellow, familiar with the intricacies of how Fifa works. Has presence, is the "world politician" of the two candidates, speaking numerous languages.
What his enemies say
In Havelange's pockets; too tainted with the accusations of extravagance and undemocratic practice that have been levelled at his boss. And he likes to tinker with the rules too much, like his stupid plan to outlaw tackling.
Power base Latin America; numerous federations who owe him and Havelange a favour.
Unofficial campaign slogan
"Don't you just hate the Germans?"
Superstar allies George Weah, Michel Platini.
Projected vote 101

Distribution of Fifa's voting members



Lennart Johansson

Age 68
Born November 5, 1929
Birthplace Bromma, Sweden
Appearance European trade union official
Current job President of Uefa
Route to the top
1962-80 Chairman of AIK Stockholm.
1967-79 Board member, Swedish Football League.
1979-84 Chairman, Swedish Football League.
1984-91 Chairman, Swedish Football Association.
1984-88 Member of Uefa's Euro 88 Committee.
1988-90 Member of Uefa Executive Committee.
1990- Uefa president.
1990- Vice-president of Fifa.
1990-98 Vice-chairman of the World Cup Organising Committee for France 98.

Football credentials
He supports Arsenal.
What his friends say
He's a most amiable sort of chap, very interested in participation in the sport. He's Swedish and therefore more neutral than most when it comes to the big political battles. And he supports Arsenal.
What his enemies say
He is a German puppet, a placement by them to kick out Fifa's Latin influence, not at all his own man. He is bumbling, hasn't the stature to glow on the world stage, doesn't speak languages, lacks dynamism. And he supports Arsenal.
Power base Europe, Africa (but losing it).
Unofficial campaign slogan
"Vorsprung durch Johansson."
Superstar allies
Pele, Bobby Charlton.
Projected vote 90

Their master's voice

1991
"The Africans are making great progress and one day they will be champions of the world."

"Discipline gives me greatest pleasure. I was always that way when I played water polo."

"Undisputably the most disciplined team at the last World Cup, the most perfect on the ground, was the England team."

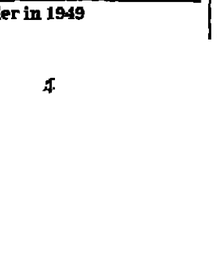
"I am not prejudiced by anything. All I wish to do is to continue to serve my family, my business, Fifa and sport. I am happy because football is well respected... No.1 in the world."

1995
"As a player Pele gets 10 out of 10. As a person, does he administrate anything? He does advertisements for two companies. I administrate. I do not do advertisements for anyone."

"He [Blatter] speaks French, Spanish, Italian, German, English and Portuguese and writes in all those languages. He is a very capable man with all the qualities and has shown them for 23 years. He always arrives at seven in the morning and leaves at seven in the evening."

"If you count all the publicity companies, television networks and everyone else who gains from football, we give employment to 450 million people in the world."

"I have achieved my mission of trying to administrate well. I am proud to say I am Brazilian."



Way back when . . .

Frank Keating recalls the bunch of daffodils who won Glamorgan's first county championship in 1948



Pipe dream fulfilled . . . Wilf Wooller in 1949
PHOTOGRAPH: HULTON GETTY

FIFTY Junes ago Glamorgan began to mount the charge which resulted in cricket's county championship leaving England for the first time. The present champions celebrate that notable half-century with an anniversary reunion of their predecessors on Wednesday next week at Cardiff's Sophia Gardens "although, sadly, there are only a handful left of us 1948 pioneers," says the 75-year-old Jim Pleass, mid-order bat, once swooping cover fieldsman and founder of the *county's former players'* association.

The Welsh triumph remains one of the ancient championship's most resonant. The inspiringly autocratic captain Wilf Wooller, not long before his death at 84 last year, chuckled: "It took poor old Jim Swanton of the Daily Telegraph all of two ruddy years to first believe and then accept that Glamorgan had won it."

There were other unbelievers nearer home, added Wooller. While the wicketkeeper Haydn Davies had taken heavy bets all round that the county would go on and win the championship once they had headed it in early June, "his namesake Emrys, our opening bat, still flatly refused to believe we had actually clinched it [at Bournemouth at the end of August] until he had heard it spoken next morning in Welsh on BBC Wales".

As a schoolboy across the border I remember being caught up in the Welsh charge that summer. My particular favourite was Willie Jones, a stocky left-hander from Neath who in his winters played shining rugby at fly-half for Gloucester at Kingsholm. He died in 1996 at 79.

Those first two weeks of June, 1948, Jones had boldly batted Glamorgan into the championship lead with two double centuries: against Kent at Gravesend and Essex at Brentwood, where his 212 not out alongside Emrys D's 215 put on a record 313 for a left-handers' third wicket.

Wooller had also been a rugby star, of course. But at cricket Jones was scared of his captain and in Stephen Chalke's minor classic on the era, Runs In The Memory, the Glamorgan doyen Don Shepherd relates the extent of it.

"Seven summers Willie scores 1,000 runs a season but remains so anxious that he gets his wife to ring Wilf to see if he's playing . . . Wilf towers over him and Willie is afraid of making mistakes. There are even days when Wilf threatens to send Willie home. 'Many's the time I wish I'd gone,' confides Willie . . . But back he comes and sometimes his wife comes with him 'to sort Wilf out'."

Wooller, Clay, Clift, Davies D, Davies E, Dyson, Hever, Jones, Muncer, Parkhouse, Pleass, Watkins: those were, to all intents, the glam Glam 12 of 1948 which still trips off the tongue. But who remembers Jim Eaglestone and Stan Trick? For grandchildren Wisden's annual log of "Births and Deaths" proves a player has been a first-class cricketing stalwart. Neither is listed any longer but both played crucial parts in the 1948 triumph.

Down the years, when Pleass sent out his annual circular to Glamorgan's former players, he admits wondering, "Whatever happened to Jimmy?" Eaglestone had arrived from the Middlesex groundstaff at Lord's in 1948, been ever present in Glamorgan's championship run as a sound batsman and, in a memorable fielding side, athletic and sure in the outfield. He then disappeared back to London a year later, never to be heard of again.

For this year's anniversary reunion Pleass enlisted the help of the county's librarian David Irving to try to track down Eaglestone. Dead end followed cul-de-sac and their old friend was "missing presumed dead" until one final try in Wisden Cricket Monthly — a photograph and a headline Have You Seen This Man? — drew immediate response from John Spencer, secretary of Pinner CC.

Eaglestone was alive and well — and he would be 75 this July 24 — and Pleass contentedly posted off the party invitation to his old comrade.

In a terrific new book Daffodil Days (Gomer Press; £16.99) Grahame Lloyd acclaims Glamorgan's 1997 title but dwells touchingly as well on the 1948 pioneers. He details the search for Eaglestone and quotes the long-lost player's delight at being "found".

"I was very proud for myself and Glamorgan," says the old Londoner whose fleeting "foreign" visit helped win a championship. "The next year, 1949, Glamorgan offered me a new contract but there wasn't the money about in cricket then, so I opened a confectionery and tobacconist's shop in Paddington and gave up the game completely."

Eaglestone retired to Pinner with his wife Doris in 1984. "I'm really pleased to be tracked down after all these years," he says. "Rightly or wrongly I didn't think Glamorgan would want to know about me after so long.

"Wilf was a great bloke and skipper; we were all pals together. I remember being pushed all over the place in the outfield, mainly because I was a bit swift," says the old man.

Even more fleeting was Stan Trick's contribution in 1948. He played only in the five matches that Glamorgan played at Swansea. In each one he ensured the victory. The local boy knew just how to bowl his medium-fast left-arm spinners at slow-turning St Helen's. In those five games Trick bowled 331 superb overs for 37 wickets at 19 apiece.

His motor-business boss was also his father-in-law-to-be. "If you want her, and want to work for me," he said sternly, "you'll only bowl for Glamorgan at Swansea, m'boy." And so he did, helping to bring home the title.

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After you, Joao . . . Havelange weighs the balance between the two candidates to succeed him as president of Fifa, Sepp Blatter, whom he favours, and Lennart Johansson
PHOTOMONTAGE BY STEVE CAPLIN

Game, set and crash for girl power

FAIR GAME

Julie Welch



My favourite headline of all time is from the Morning Star of June 20, 1992. It read: "Kitty Godfree Dies. Revised Wimbledon Draw." Given that Godfree skipped round a court well into her nineties and given also that women's tennis was drawing on a stagnant pool of talent just then, it would have been only mildly surprising to spot her name on the scoreboard at SW19.

Things have changed. Martina Navratilova was still cruising to titles in her thirties. Steffi Graf cleaned up during her twenties. Now the teenagers are taking over. The key match at the French Open was seen as the quarter-final between Martina Hingis and Venus Williams, both 17. These days a mature female is as anachronistic as a playing surface which is fast and green and will turn yellow if not occasionally watered. In women's sport tennis players are the new Olga Korbuts. At 24 and 26 respectively, Monica Seles and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario are practically crones. Their unscheduled final in Paris on Saturday had a whiff of the dowagers' last stand.

Graf has slipped off before being upstaged by the children fighting for her crown. Today she drops out of the WTA rankings for the first time in more than 15 years. She is a week short of her 29th birthday. When she began her rise to pre-eminence, Hingis, Williams and Anna Kournikova had only just got to grips with solid food and Williams's younger sister Serena was awaiting conception.

With Graf's decline into tennis wrinklihood, the kingdom is there to be conquered. Hingis and Williams just about have time to sort out custody of the salvers and shoe contracts before they are overwhelmed by a fresh wave of would-be multi-million-airesses. Kournikova was 17 only yesterday but the suspicion is that she is mainly there to give men a nice bottom to drool at. The way things are heading, future champions will not be old enough to wear a bra.

The reason for Graf's slide down the rankings is that she has hardly played. She is a living medical textbook, the embodiment of what happens when someone picks up a tennis racket at reception-class age and spends the next two decades whacking a tennis ball. A lecturer in medicine could have based three semesters' teaching on her back alone.

Some of the US tennis press referred to Graf as Fraulein Forehand. More appropriate would have been Steffi Screwed-Up Spine.

It is not as if Graf had the wrong build for tennis. Like Virginia Wade before her she possessed the perfect physique, as light and sinewy as an 800 metres runner. This is not to say that nature's penguins are debarred from high achievement — Lindsay Davenport managed Olympic gold and her nickname on the circuit is Dumptruck — but being able to shift like Seb Coe is a huge advantage.

Not for long, though. The matches are tough, the surfaces implacable. Increasingly, because of the bigness of the bucks, they start younger, pound their skeletons harder and crock themselves earlier.

Billie Jean King would not have amassed her record number of Wimbledon titles if she was playing now. She would have limped away at 19, with knees like rusting cheesegraters.

Hingis may last longer than most. Far from running being her forte, she relies on terrific anticipation.

This has kept her out of trouble so far but, as befits a member of the My Little Pony set, the injury which deprived her of last year's French title was incurred falling off a horse.

Venus Williams's style owes more to the steamroller than Swan Lake. She can make a tennis ball travel at 100mph but already has problems with her legs. Unlike King, future champions are unlikely to become icons. They will not be around long enough to insinuate themselves into our memory banks.

The fall of seeds is enjoyable not just because it warms the heart to see calamitous things happen to someone richer and younger than oneself. All sports need a turn-over of talent. If champions never got toppled tennis would be a gerontocracy like darts, where in some dimly lit night-club Eric Bristow is still contesting the final against John Lowe. This year's Wimbledon final would be Court v Bueno, unless one of them got beaten by that little Evonne Goolagong in the semis.

However, it has now gone to the other extreme. A few Grand Slams, some cover shots for men's magazines and they will be gone before you can say "herniated disc". Still, they will have no problem paying the medical fees.

Dunlop out on his own on the mountain of death

CENTRE STAGE

Pete Nichols

IT HAS been an unremitting toll on the Manx mountain. Two years ago Mick Lofthouse, Steve Tannock, Aaron Kennedy and Rob Holden were all killed at the races. Holden's Ducati team was disbanded after the rider died that sad Friday morning.

Colin Gable was a veteran of the TT races but knowing one's way round the 37.73-mile course confers no immunity. Gable, from Ravenstone in Leicestershire, died last year when his Honda 750 crashed in practice. Last Thursday it was Mike Casey's turn. The marine engineer, who lived at Patrick on the island, was killed and the grim tally of victims reached 171, from 91 years of Isle of Man racing.

Weaving through the carnage is Joey Dunlop. No, it does not really happen like that; it just feels like it. Dunlop is the rider who takes one's mind off the tragedies, allows one to concentrate on the triumphs. The 46-year-old Ulsterman is now out on his own among island racers. Last year he won his fourth successive lightweight title and his 22nd TT victory overall.

This year Dunlop is back for another tilt at the lightweight crown. He is no more immune to crashes than anyone else and arrived at these races, for which practice began last week, as patched up as any. In a race last month, the Tandragee 100, Dunlop broke his pelvis, collarbone and left hand, losing the third finger of that hand completely. His wedding ring will have to find another finger.



Manx master . . . Dunlop, 22 titles to date MIKE COOPER

In this business, though, broken bodies do not mean broken spirits and sometimes one wonders if there is only one stopping point. At least he has not tried to manoeuvre the big bikes round the island this time, turning down the chance of a full-factory ride on a Honda RC45 for the Formula One race, an event which Dunlop once won six years in a row and which, he asserts, was the race he was most eager to win again. The island roads are hard enough to negotiate on any bike.

The riders hit speeds up to 180mph but speed alone does not kill. It is what happens when one stops, suddenly. Crashes in track racing are seldom fatal; as the elegant seat-of-the-pants skidding of Mick Doohan showed at Phillip Island last October, one can make dismounting at speed an art form. On the track circuits, though, there are few impediments. Anything which might cause a sliding bike to flip is removed.

On the island circuit there is nothing but obstacles and road surfaces vary but that is not the trap. The circuit is bordered by stone walls, houses, lamp-posts, sheep fencing and sheer drops. In these races it pays to stay on the bike.

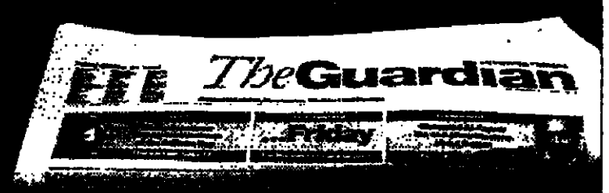
Six summers ago Carl Fogarty, twice world superbike champion, rode the circuit at an average of 123.61 mph, which remains the outright lap record. Even Fogarty now says he will not ride the island again, that it is too dangerous.

Dunlop does not know yet if his escapades will be all over after this year's event. "I'll see how I feel," he says, though he is rather too old to be coy. Nobody has come close to his domination. Mike Hailwood, who once won seven world track titles in a row (three at 250cc and four at 500cc) could manage only 14 wins on the island and he is the next best.

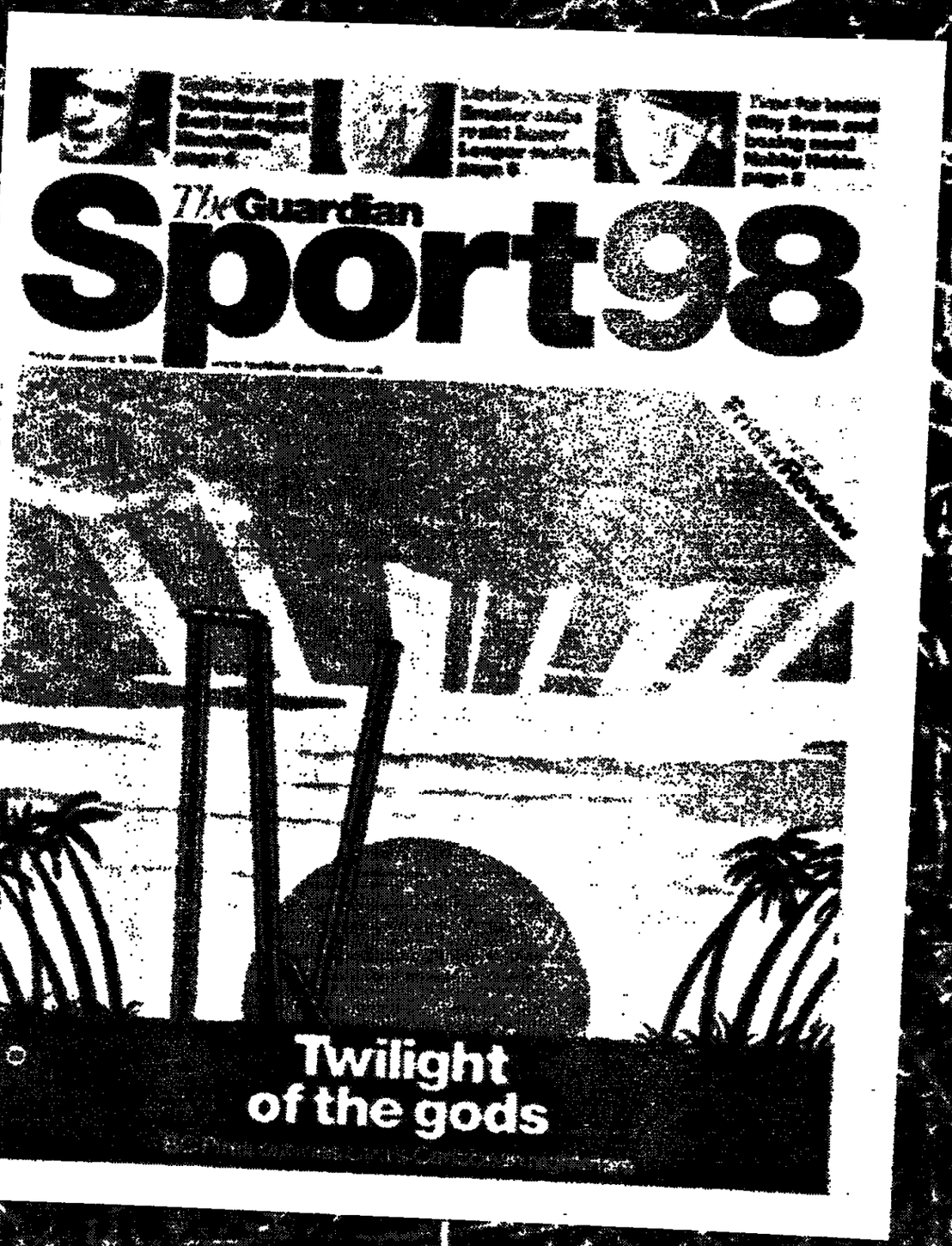
Dunlop may soon quit and there are 171 reasons why the race, too, may need an early retirement. Dave Cretney, the island's minister for tourism and a former racer himself, insists the event is not under threat: "In a world where there are fewer and fewer challenges, this is the ultimate in motorcycling. They come because they want the challenge. Each death is an individual tragedy but I don't think Mike (Casey) would want it to stop. More people die in a season in the Alps than have ever died here."

Casey, though, was 34. When so many are buried, and with such regularity, the question will not go away.

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Rugby Union

Cook Cup: Australia 76 England 0

Worse to come for England after rout

Robert Armstrong in Brisbane on a record defeat that put the coaches at odds



Shell-shocked . . . Clive Woodward's players hang their heads after the heaviest international defeat suffered by an England team PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID ROGERS

ENGLAND, their morale perhaps irretrievably shattered, flew to New Zealand this morning still trying to come to terms with the magnitude of this debâcle at the Suncorp stadium on Saturday. The crushing defeat, in the first game of their seven-match tour, was the biggest they have suffered in 127 years of international rugby.

The paralysing sense of shock that has gripped Clive Woodward's squad will have to be shaken off swiftly if England are to avoid regular doses of the same medicine as they make their way around the most uncompromising rugby nation in the world.

There is a genuine danger that the tourists' inexperience and the lack of natural leaders on the field could turn England's demanding itinerary into an unmitigated catalogue of disasters. Their prospects have not been improved by Fran Cotton's astonishing proposal that the rest of the tour be called off. "Pity the poor Poms" ran one banner headline after the match; pity England, indeed, when they have to cope with axe-grinding "supporters" of Cotton's outlook.

Australia's vociferous rugby politicians also jumped on the bandwagon. "What can you do, pretend it didn't happen?" asked John O'Neill, the chief executive of the Australian RFU, who chooses to believe that the English clubs deliberately withheld their best players from the tour. "For a country that has figured in the world's top four to be beaten 76-0 is a crying shame," he added. Quite so.

More serious, perhaps, was the sharp divergence of opinion between Woodward and his assistant John Mitchell on how best to respond to this setback. Yesterday England's coach allowed the players to take the day off but the New Zealander Mitchell said: "If I had my way, they would not be relaxing by the hotel swimming pool. I would have them out on the training pitch running around, hitting bags and reminding themselves of their responsibilities."

The coaches' respective assessments of a game in which England conceded a record 11 tries in 51 minutes also seemed to be light years apart. For Woodward it was "a bad day at the office" and "a freak game" which "just ran away" from a young side which included five new caps (plus two uncapped substitutes). For Mitchell the occasion posed searching questions to "players who expect respect before they have done anything to earn it".

The former Waikato captain added: "I don't accept humiliation very well; what happened is still hurting. Still, I am determined to remain mentally strong and ensure we do well in New Zealand. The players must become more professional and we'll work very hard this week to put things right."

Woodward has always insisted his preparations will be geared entirely to the next World Cup, yet on the evidence to date his Australian counterpart Rod MacQueen appears to have a more realistic grasp of what his players can achieve. MacQueen shrewdly decided to switch the gifted Stephen Larkham from full-back to fly-half and he scored an inspirational hat-trick of tries to go with the three plundered by the wing Ben Tune.

Australia produced a fast, exciting display of the type that won them the 1991 World Cup. A devastating salvo of 27 points in the 13 minutes before the break put an end to the match as a serious contest and left England to carry out a damage-limitation exercise. But things went from bad to worse after MacQueen brought on Willie Ofahengaue in the back row for Toutai Kefu, who scored the first try.

England squandered early chances to get points on the board mainly because Woodward delegated goalkicking to the untried fly-half Jon Wilkinson, who does not fill that role for his club Newcastle. Tim Stimpson, who scored more than 100 points on last year's Lions tour of South Africa, watched as the 19-year-old failed to do the business.

Tony Diprose, the England captain, took crumbs of comfort from England's set-piece performance, especially in the line-out where Garath Archer and Danny Grewcock won some good ball. The fundamental problem was the heavy pressure Australia's pacy flankers put on England's half-backs. Scott Benton and Wilkinson, who struggled as a creative partnership. English errors translated into Wallaby scores with depressing frequency.

After last year's mediocre results Australia now look confident and well-balanced, with the kind of flexible rhythms going forward that England, shorn of their injured senior pros, can only dream of. World-class performers such as John Eales, Phil Kearns, Tim Horan and Matt Burke, who scored 22 points, dished out a painful lesson to England's ingenues.

The obvious difference between England and the southern hemisphere nations is that Woodward does not have a shadow Test side waiting in the wings when his top men get injured. In contrast New Zealand's A team, whom England meet in Hamilton on Saturday, will probably be strong enough to put the tourists through the mincing machine with the efficiency shown by the Wallabies.

As Mitchell, who was based at Hamilton for much of his playing career, knows better than anyone, the hard part of the tour is only just beginning.

SCORERS: Australia: Tries: Kefu, Larkham 3, Horan 2, Tune 3, Burke, Gregan. **Conversions:** Burke 4, Larkham 2. **Penalties:** Burke 3.
AUSTRALIA: Burke (NSW, Little, Queensland, 66mm), Tune, Herbert, Horan (all Queensland), Roff; Larkham, Gregan (all ACT); Harry (NSW; Crowley, Queensland, 61), Kearns, Blades, Bowman (all NSW), Eales (capt), Cockbain (both Queensland; Finegan, ACT, 46), Wilson (Queensland), Kefu (Queensland; Ofahengaue, NSW, 50).
ENGLAND: Stimpson (Leicester; Chapman, Richmond, 28); Brown (Richmond), Perry (Bath), Pawtencroft (Saracens), Healey (Leicester); Wilkinson (Newcastle), Benton (Gloucester); Rowntree, Cockerill (both Leicester), Vickery (Gloucester), Grewcock (Saracens), Archer (Newcastle), Sternham (Saracens), Pool-Jones (Stade Français), Diprose (Saracens, capt).
Referee: A Watson (South Africa).

Golf

Westwood's huge putt finally cracks Chalmers

Bill Elliott at Hanbury Manor

SOMETIMES it is not the birdie putts so much as the par-saving ones that win tournaments, demoralising opponents as the ball trundles across a country mile before disappearing. So it was yesterday when Lee Westwood finally broke the heart of his main rival, Greg Chalmers.

The Englishman holed a 30ft effort on the 16th that confounded logic and not only secured his par on this deceptive 169-yard hole but shocked his opponent into dropping a stroke. Chalmers had seemed likely to draw level with the leader after each man had missed the green, Westwood hooking miles left on to a bare, scrubby lie while Chalmers' shot slipped narrowly to the right.

Westwood then barrelled his attempted pitch way past the flag but the Australian delicately managed to get his ball to stop within 10 feet of the hole. Then Westwood came up with his putt of the day while Chalmers' effort braked to a halt an inch short.

This meant that, instead of pulling alongside at 16 under par, the gap was suddenly two shots, and that was too much. It brought to a premature climax a fascinating duel between two young men, one of whom is now established as a major player while the other, Chalmers, is surely heading that way after the evidence so far on the European Tour.

Westwood closed with a 69 yesterday for his winning total of 271 but it is the Australian's Saturday 61 that will live indelibly as the highlight of this tournament.

That 11-under-par round contained seven birdies and two eagles and, when Chalmers started yesterday with birdies at the opening three holes, it meant he was 14 under par for his last 21 holes. He was also in the lead by two shots. It surely could not last and it did not. His next birdie arrived nine holes later and by then Westwood had picked up three birdies and the lead.

While Patrik Sjoland threatened briefly in the group ahead, the expected challenge from Colin Montgomerie never materialised, his putting just an inch or so away from being perfect. The Scot had to settle for a 69 after two untypical bogeys on the front nine and he left the course in disagreeable mood.

"To finish fourth here after starting with a 64 is disappointing. I played great all week for nothing," he said. This was not strictly true for Montgomerie was soon presented with a cheque for £32,500.

Westwood, meanwhile, picked up everything. This victory is his first win on home soil as a professional, the first time he has won in consecutive weeks following his triumph in Germany last Monday, and he also moves to the top of the European rankings for the first time.

The only disappointment was that he also won a watch. "I've won nine titles now worldwide and I've never been given a watch before today, so on Friday I thought 'sod it' and I went out and bought myself one and then today I was given an Omega." Yesterday he was pure alpha material.

Garcia emulates Olazabal double

David Davies sees the Boys' champion take the Amateur title at Muirfield

THE woman who emerged from the secretary's office here was not up to date with affairs in last week's Amateur Championship. So, on spotting the 6ft 7in semi-finalist Mark Hilton, she asked: "Who do you play next?" Hilton replied: "Sergio Garcia." "Oh dear," she said, "Well, never mind."

Hilton smiled at the assumption that he would lose and, although he did, he came closer than anyone to troubling the 18-year-old Spaniard. Craig Williams, a 20-year-old uncapped Welshman was not in the same class and lost the 36-hole final by 7 and 6.

It meant Garcia became only the second person to hold the Boys' and Amateur titles at the same time, the other being another Spaniard: Jose Maria Olazabal. The latter achieved his feat in 1984, beating Colin Montgomerie in the Amateur final.

Those two were the last Amateur finalists who went on to make a big impression in the professional ranks. It is not certain Garcia will follow them because golfing history is full of prodigies failing to translate talent into manly achievement. But, as Damon Runyon would have said, backing Garcia to succeed is as sure as hell the way to bet.

Although Williams led briefly in the first round of the final, the momentum was irretrievably with the Spaniard after a spell of five wins in six holes, including four in succession around the turn.

The Welshman lost the 8th to a par, the 9th to a 15ft birdie putt and the 10th to a superbly struck two-iron second to around nine feet, which eliminated the need for Garcia to putt. Williams taking five. Williams then sliced his drive to the 11th and went four down.

There followed a perfect example of a match-play hole. Garcia drove into the deep rough; Williams was down the middle. Garcia slashed his second through the green; Williams hit his to 10 feet. Garcia chipped poorly to 15 feet. Now the Spaniard had to hole and Williams to miss. Both happened, leaving the Welshman still four down.

One of the things Garcia must watch out for is the danger of getting ahead of himself. There was more than one occasion here when he was chattering to his supporters rather than concentrating on the job, as he did at the 15th.

He had a straightforward wedge to the green but, after joking with friends, hit it quickly and left it 20 yards short of the putting surface. He lost the hole, then followed Williams into the same bunker on the right of the 16th. It was Garcia to play and he flew the ball at the pin, hit it dead centre and dropped down two inches from the hole.

Williams found it impossible to get his par for the half. He was still four down at lunchtime and it was now a question of how long he could extend the match into the second round. It turned out to be until the 12th green but, as the woman in the clubhouse would say: "Never mind." He will not always face talents such as Garcia in his future career.

Athletics

McKiernan well set for road test

Duncan Mackay in Dublin

CATHERINA McKiernan's first race since winning the London Marathon in April was little more than a lap of honour around the Irish capital.

She won the Dublin women's 10km, the biggest female-only race in the world with a field of 35,000, by more than 200 metres in 33min 20sec. "It was a nice little work-out," she said. "It's nice to be back racing."

Behind her there were extraordinary scenes as competitors streamed across the finish line at the rate of more than 100 per second during the race's peak period.

Since McKiernan and Sonia O'Sullivan started forging international reputations six years ago the number of runners taking part has nearly doubled.

"There was a fantastic atmosphere on the streets," McKiernan said. "Since winning here last year I have competed mainly abroad, so it was a good feeling to run in front of a home crowd again."

The victory extended her unbeaten record to 15 races and set her up nicely for the showdown in Oporto on June 21 against Kenya's Tegla Loroupe, the marathon world record holder, and Ethiopia's Fatuma Roba, the Olympic champion.

The money had been rolling in for McKiernan since her London victory. She has recently signed a new shoe deal with adidas which could earn her $360,000 (£225,000) over the next three years. But esteem as much as dollars will be the motivating force for the 11km race in Portugal.

"It's a good event to run in and I'm delighted to be involved in it," said McKiernan. "Compared to the other two, I don't have a lot of experience in road-running but will do the best I can."

Debacle tells Telfer little

THE Scotland coach Jim Telfer said yesterday that Australia's record 76-0 defeat of England offered no pointer to his own side's prospects against the Wallabies this weekend.

Telfer declared England played so poorly it was impossible to assess the task facing his side in the first Test against Australia in Sydney on Saturday. "It's very difficult to judge because England were so dreadful," he said.

Scotland, who beat New South Wales 34-10 at the weekend, with Gregor Townsend man of the match, gave Telfer encouragement after laboured wins against New South Wales Country and Victoria.

The tourists will warm up for the Test against the Australian Barbarians at Penrith tomorrow, a match which will enable Simon Holmes of London Scottish to make his first tour appearance. The capped flanker sprained an ankle in the Premiership play-off against Bristol, leaving him as a spectator for the first four matches.

Byron Hayward savoured a hat-trick on his international debut as Wales scored eight tries when they opened their tour of southern Africa with a 49-11 victory over Zimbabwe in Harare on Saturday.

The 29-year-old Ebbw Vale outside-half came on at full-back as a 33rd-minute replacement for David Weatherley, who had a far unhappier first cap. The Swansea No. 15 suffered a ligament injury to his right knee which threatens his participation in the tour.

It was the perfect start for Wales on their six-match trip, albeit that the victory was over limited opposition. They next meet the Emerging Springboks on Friday.

The brothers Peter and Des Clohessy have been selected together for Ireland for the first time and will be paired in the tourists' front row for tomorrow's tour match against Griqualand West in Kimberley. Peter, who has 19 caps, will play right-head prop, with his younger brother Des making his first senior appearance for his country at loosehead.

Ireland suffered the second consecutive defeat of their South African tour, going down 12-6 to Western Province at Newlands, Cape Town, on Saturday. In a match of few highlights but much mud the referee Jonathan Kaplan awarded 28 penalties.

Alfredsson back and walking on water

Elspeth Burnside in Evian

SWEDEN's Helen Alfredsson, who needed surgery on a career-threatening back injury 18 months ago, seized the first European title of the season with an outstanding final round in the Evian Masters.

The 33-year-old, a two-time victor in America since her operation, closed with a flawless seven-under-par 65, the best of the week here on the shores of Lake Geneva, for an 11-under-par total of 277. She took the £75,000 winner's cheque by four shots from compatriot Marla Hjorth.

The leading Britons were Alison Nicholas, who will defend her US Open title in three weeks' time, and Trish Johnson, in joint third on 282. Nicholas closed with three birdies in a 71 but Johnson, the joint overnight leader, said she was "gutted" with her 73 on Saturday, comprised of 17 pars and one bogey.

At least there was the consolation of free World Cup final tickets from the sponsors for Johnson, an Arsenal fan, and Laura Davies, who closed with a 72 for a share of 12th place.

Alfredsson's fiancé Leo Cueller, a former Mexico international with 115 caps, was also given two hot tickets. He caddied for her in Evian. "It's our sixth victory together and it's just been such a treat to be back playing in Europe," said Alfredsson. "It's just a shame that there are only eight events on the schedule." So say the other players. However, there remain hopes of adding tournaments in Morocco, Ireland and England. Davies is lending her support to the European cause.

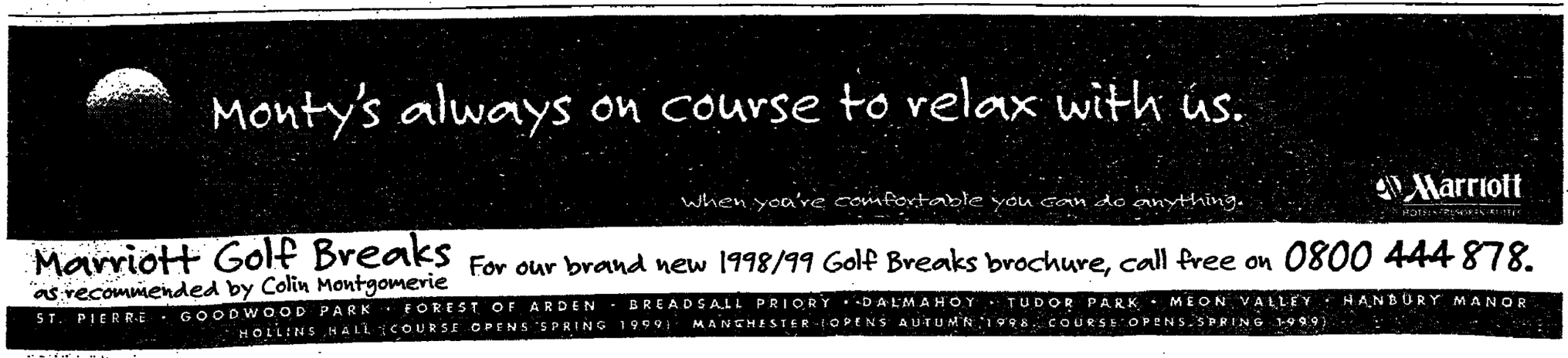
Cycling

Pantani swoops to first Giro

MARCO PANTANI won his first Tour of Italy yesterday after the final stage was annulled following a request by riders, who said the heavy rain had made the roads slippery and dangerous. Race judges made their decision about five hours into the 107 miles to Milan from Lugano in Switzerland but the riders were told to complete the stage to satisfy the huge crowds who turned out to cheer the Italian to the finish.

Pantani had all but wrapped up the Giro on Saturday with a brilliant time-trial which increased his lead over Russia's Pavel Tonkov to 1min 33sec.

The tiny, shaven-headed 28-year-old, known as the "Bald Eagle" for his climbing ability, finished second in 1994 but missed the 1996 season after breaking his leg and crashed out of last year's race when a cat ran on to the road in front of his bike.



Racing

High-Rise shows a classic hand

Chris Hawkins reflects on a Derby which brought joy and despair in equal helpings

A GREAT finish, a sunny afternoon and a huge crowd put the Vodafone Epsom Derby firmly back on the map on Saturday. Worries that in its 219th year the race was beginning to show its age were banished by a display of speed and courage from two colts who epitomised all that is best in racing.

Nothing quite matches the thrill of two horses racing flat-out, head to head in a final furlong battle and as High-Rise inched out City Honours it was a spine-tingling, emotion-charged experience.

But inevitably, or so it seems, there was a down side. King Of Kings, the 2,000 Guineas winner, was found to have injured a knee so badly after finishing last that he has had to be retired.

Aidan O'Brien, his trainer, explained: "He was X-rayed and it seems there is nothing that can de done so it's the end of his racing career."

Uncannily, this follows the pattern of ill-fortune that has dogged 2,000 Guineas winners *in the Derby in recent years* — Entrepreneur flopped last season and was retired after just one more race, while Pennekamp, the 1996 Guineas winner, broke a bone in a hind leg in the Derby and never ran again. The finish of Saturday's race highlighted the true *internationalism of* racing nowadays. High-Rise was bred in Ireland, owned by an Arab, trained by an Italian and ridden by a Frenchman, while the American-bred City Honours was Irish-ridden and owned and trained by Arabs.

For Olivier Peslier, riding High-Rise, it was a first Derby win and the French champion jockey inevitably earned plaudits for a galvanising performance, although the stewards thought it was a touch too strong and banned him *for two days* for his use of the whip.

Peslier's judgment may not have been spot on, however, and he must thank High-Rise for a Herculean effort. He was farther back than trainer Luca Cumani wanted turning for home, but the colt made rapid progress three out and then showed battling qualities to repel City Honours.

The pair may meet again in the *Irish Derby*, but Peslier is not certain to be free and Cumani could be looking for another rider for his colt.

Cape Verdi, backed down to favouritism on the day, was the big disappointment of the race. She finished ninth to fuel opinion that it is expecting too much of a filly to take on the colts at Epsom, although her display was so poor that it must remain inconclusive.

Simon Crisford, racing manager to Godolphin, commented yesterday: "Obviously we're very disappointed and she was never travelling that well. We took a chance and it didn't work. I'm sure she'll step back in trip now."

At least Godolphin had the satisfaction of seeing City Honours finish second.

There was no lighter side, however, for O'Brien, whose three colts — Second Empire (8th), Saratoga Springs (10th) and King Of Kings (last) all ran badly.

King Of Kings had a valid excuse, but Second Empire was found wanting and perhaps his apparently poor run in that controversial Irish Classic was nothing more than a fair reflection of his ability.

In New York, Real Quiet failed by a nose to land the American Triple Crown when beaten by Victory Gallop in the final leg, the Belmont Stakes over a mile and a half.

Real Quiet, winner of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness Stakes, was caught on the line, meaning that Affirmed in 1978 remains the *last colt to complete the Classic treble.*

At Chantilly yesterday the Aga Khan's filly Zainta, ridden by Gerald Mosse, edged out Abbatiale in a photo finish to win the Prix de Diane Hermes (French Oaks).



Final flourish . . . High-Rise (left) gets up in the last strides to pip City Honours in the Derby at Epsom on Saturday PHOTOGRAPH: STEFAN ROUSSEAU/PA

Cumani triumphs over adversity

Chris Hawkins

FOR Luca Matteo Cumani, the urbane Italian trainer who made Newmarket his home 22 years ago, Saturday's Vodafone Derby victory of High-Rise was a triumph for talent and quiet perseverance. In the last few seasons Cumani's star has been in decline. Ten years ago he won the Derby with Kahyasi for the Aga Khan, but the latter's decison to quit British racing hit him hard. He lost 40 horses and more followed as the general recession saw the departure of some wealthy American owners.

Then perhaps the biggest blow of all: Sheikh Mohammed hit on the Godolphin idea and Cumani, despite training Barathea to win the Breeders Cup Mile in 1994, found himself down the pecking order.

"Yes, I went down a rung or two in the Sheikh Mohammed operation when Godolphin came in, but I never lost faith; I always thought I could still train a bit," said Cumani, revealing the self-denigrating side of his nature that he likes to play up.

Everyone knows, none more than Cumani, that he has one of the sharpest brains in racing, but remarks such as — "I was a little slow getting the grey matter going" — when asked when he first thought High-Rise might be a Derby colt, are typical of him.

He has penetrating eyes and talks with a smile on his lips which suggests he *knows a lot more than you,* but is not letting on.

His father, Sergio, was a *top trainer in Italy* and it was natural for the young Cumani to be associated with horses, although he trained to be a doctor for *three years.*

He gave up because: "I was too selfish and didn't have enough of the missionary about me" and became champion amateur rider in 1972.

Then he came to England as assistant trainer to Henry Cecil, a period which coincided with Italian owner Carlo d'Alessio's association with the stable, resulting in successive 2,000 Guineas victories with Bolkonski and Wollow, ridden by Frankie Dettori's father, Gianfranco.

Cumani set up on his own in 1976, quickly establishing a reputation for quality animals, and he lists the best horses he has trained as Kahyasi, Tolomeo, Commanche Run, Barathea, Markofdistinction, Only Royale and now High-Rise.

Summing up the last few years, he said: "For a while I was playing in the premier league with second division material — I'm just thankful I didn't get relegated."

Windsor runners and riders tonight

	RON COX	TOP FORM
6.30	Brighstone	Brighstone
7.00	Precision Finish (nap)	Batchworth Belle
7.30	Tajine	Rainbow Rain
8.00	Capriolo	Capriolo
8.30	Godabi (nb)	Godabi
9.00	Quite Happy	Caution

Figure-eight track of 1½m, though only right-hand turns occur in races up to 1m70yds. Virtually straight 5f & 6f tracks.
Going: Good ★ Denotes blinkers.
Draw: High numbers favoured over 5f & 6f.
Seven day winners: 7.30 Brandon Jack.
Blinkered or visored first time: None.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. *J.Jumps.*

6.30 ARISTON DECORATED FRIDGE CLAIMING STAKES SKY
1m 3f £2,388 (16 declared)

1 (5) 400-20 Tailb (16) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-9 ... Martin Dwyer 87
2 (16) 1/00-0 Filmore West (24) D Arbuthnot 5-9-7 ... S Whitworth —
3 (4) 330000 Poker School (7) N Callaghan 4-9-7 ... Pat Eddery ★ —
4 (14) 10102- Brighstone (J10) (CD) M Pipe 5-9-4 ... K Fallon ●90
5 (2) 143005 Sea Spouse (21) (D) M Blanshard 7-9-4 ... M Tebbutt 84
6 (9) 54000- Flagstaff (J221) A Carroll 5-9-3 ... R Cochrane —
7 (12) 00-050 Orontes (7) J S Moore 4-9-3 ... P P Murphy (3) —
8 (7) 5050-0 Sorisky (16) B Gubby 6-9-3 ... R Ffrench —
9 (1) 0500-9 Press Again (39) P Hayward 6-8-13 ... A McGlone —
10 (13) 0-50 Keyser Soze (105) D Haydn Jones 3-8-6 ... A Mackay —
11 (11) 00 Where's Albert (9) D Morris 3-8-6 ... A Clark —
12 (3) 000-00 Fiercely Ginger (12) E Wheeler 3-8-1 ... D Biggs —
13 (8) -00016 Wedding Band (6) D Elsworth 3-8-1 ... M Henry ★ 88
14 (15) 0006-0 Shocasdo (21) E L James 3-8-0 ... C Rutter 85
15 (10) 6-4450 Bermuda Triangle (34) M Hayes 3-7-11 ... M Baird (3) 87
16 (6) 606-00 Elleycasta (25) A Newcombe 3-7-10 ... J Lowe —

Betting: 11-4 Tailb, 4-1 Brighstone, 13-2 Sea Spouse, 10-1 Filmore West, Poker School, Wedding Band, 14-1 Bermuda Triangle, 16-1 Sorisky

7.00 ARISTON PERFECTLY GRILLED FILLIES' H'CAP 3YO SKY
6f £3,011 (19 declared)

1 (1) 23-302 Batchworth Belle (17) (D) E Wheeler 9-7 ... S Carson (7) ●90
2 (8) 34100- Going Places (283) (C) A Ivory 9-5 ... Martin Dwyer —
3 (19) 364-02 Majalis (6) R Guest 9-2 ... J Reid 88
4 (11) 6-00 Lucy Glitters (17) I Balding 9-1 ... S Whitworth 83
5 (2) 420-55 English Lady (31) M Haynes 9-0 ... A Clark 82
6 (19) 55-0 Miss Money Spider (16) N Callaghan 9-0 ... Pat Eddery 85
7 (5) 4500-1 Little Tumbler (26) (D) S Woodman 8-13 ... R Ffrench 87
8 (6) 030-00 Fire Goddess (12) J S Moore 8-13 ... P P Murphy (3) 84
9 (13) 0-00 Precision Finish (24) J Cullinan 8-13 ... K Fallon 84
10 (4) 603150 Kalalea Pet (17) (D) R Hodges 8-11 ... R Cochrane 89
11 (3) 30025- Swansmore Lady (192) (D) S C Williams 8-9 ... Dane O'Neill 85
12 (10) 5-3650 Bow Bells (12) C Wall 8-6 ... G Hind 88
13 (7) 104-00 Take A Risk (21) A Newcombe 8-6 ... D Biggs —
14 (15) 000-00 Glitter Princess (17) N Berry 8-4 ... R Carlisle —
15 (17) 2020-6 Satis (6) M Channon 8-3 ... A Mackay 82
16 (12) 0000-0 Dorlon Grange (28) N Berry 7-12 ... J Bosley (7) —
17 (5) 0550-0 Troooonow (13) J Bradley 7-12 ... M Henry 83
18 (14) 0-5600 Mrs Pickles (12) M Usher 7-10 ... J Marshall 83
19 (9) 000-04 Lorraine (10) R Brotherton 7-10 ... N Varley —

Betting: 5-1 Little Tumbler, 6-1 Batchworth Belle, 7-1 Majalis, Precision Finish, 8-1 Kalalea Pet, 10-1 Miss Money Spider, Swansmore Lady, 12-1 Bow Bells, Satis

7.30 ARISTON DIALOGIC HANDICAP SKY
1m 2f £3,805 (12 declared)

1 (4) 0-0011 Brandon Jack (7) (6lb ex) (CD) I Balding 4-9-12 ... W R Swinburn 85
2 (10) /35-50 Glen Parker (12) H Cecil 5-9-10 ... K Fallon 86
3 (11) /050-0 Gone For A Burton (38) (CD) P Makin 8-9-7 ... Pat Eddery 84
4 (9) -00102 Stone Ridge (7) (CD) R Hannon 6-9-6 ... Dane O'Neill 85
5 (6) 2-34 The Wild Widow (35) J Eustace 4-8-12 ... J Tate 81
6 (8) 000006 Rainbow Rain (14) S Dow 4-8-11 ... G Hind ●90
7 (3) 31250- Cherokee Flight (177) S Mellor 4-8-11 ... R Perham 88
8 (3) 0050-0 Dizzy Tilly (14) (CD) T Naughton 4-8-6 ... S Sanders 89
9 (5) 500 Tajine (16) P Harris 3-8-5 ... G Duffield 86
10 (12) 005/00 Sharpest (16) J S Moore 4-8-0 ... M Henry —
11 (1) 500- Tornado Prince (229) N Callaghan 3-7-12 ... J Lowe —
12 (7) 0036-4 Tulsa (13) B Gubby 4-7-10 ... R Mullen (3) 87

Betting: 9-2 Brandon Jack, 11-2 Stone Ridge, Tornado Prince, 13-2 Glen Parker, 8-1 Gone For A Burton, The Wild Widow, 10-1 Rainbow Rain, Tulsa

8.00 INDESIT CLASSIC MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES 2YO SKY
6f £3,420 (22 declared)

1 (15) Benna Sera W Muir 8-13 ... J Reid —
2 (14) Choral Express W Muir 8-13 ... J Wilkinson (3) —
3 (9) Gold Rush B Hills 8-12 ... K Fallon —
4 (8) Rich Plain C Wall 8-12 ... S Sanders —
5 (1) Godley M Fetherston-Godley 8-9 ... R Ffrench —
6 (2) Paddens Star G Lewis 8-9 ... R Day —
7 (20) Rainbow Romeo P Walwyn 8-9 ... Pat Eddery —
8 (6) Very Much So Dr J Scargill 8-9 ... R Cochrane —
9 (13) 0 Xsynna (13) S C Williams 8-9 ... G Hind —
10 (16) 066 Bassingham Breeze (12) K Ivory 8-8 ... Martin Dwyer 86
11 (12) Cochise Miss G Kelleway 8-8 ... G Duffield —
12 (22) Tragic Dancer K McAuliffe 8-8 ... M Tebbutt —
13 (17) 3 Capriolo (8) R Hannon 8-7 ... W J O'Connor ●90
14 (21) Jaypeeetta P Cole 8-7 ... C Rutter —
15 (10) 00 Konsal (23) M Quinn 8-7 ... F Norton —
16 (11) 0 Reallhappening (16) T Naughton 8-6 ... A Clark —
17 (3) 0 Our Bandbox (16) S Mellor 8-6 ... R Perham —
18 (4) Carousel R Hannon 8-4 ... Dane O'Neill —
19 (18) Family Tree B Hills 8-4 ... R Hills —
20 (7) 0 Fancy That (35) B Hills 8-3 ... E Johnson —
21 (19) Over The Counter M Channon 8-2 ... A Mackay —
22 (5) Silver Blade A Newcombe 8-1 ... J Lowe —

Betting: 2-1 Capriolo, 6-1 Gold Rush, Jaypeeetta, 9-1 Family Tree, 12-1 Carousel, Fancy That, 14-1 Rainbow Romeo, 16-1 Tragic Dancer

8.30 ARISTON CLASSIC STAKES SKY
1m 67yds £3,591 (9 declared)

1 (3) 500-51 China Red (20) (D) J Hills 4-9-8 ... R Hills 84
2 (2) 401D12 Silk St John (7) (D) M Ryan 4-9-8 ... R Cochrane 87
3 (8) 31-004 Amber Fort (8) D Elsworth 5-9-6 ... K Fallon ★ 83
4 (6) 06-005 Bachelors Pad (16) W Jarvis 6-9-6 ... G Hind 79
5 (1) 0/4-00 Crazy Chief (7) (D) P Cole 5-9-6 ... C Rutter —
6 (7) -45020 Mr Majica (35) B Meehan 4-9-6 ... Pat Eddery 86
7 (4) 1/ Polish Legion (1144) J Akehurst 5-9-6 ... S Sanders —
8 (5) 502-1 Bless 'im (14) (D) R Hannon 3-8-11 ... R Perham 89
9 (6) 1 Godabi (25) M Stoute 3-8-8 ... J Reid ●90

Betting: 3-1 Silk St John, 7-2 Godabi, 5-1 China Red, 6-1 Bless 'Im, 13-2 Mr Majica, 7-1 Amber Fort, 8-1 Bachelors Pad

9.00 INDESIT SIMPLE IDEAS LAST LONGER STAKES SKY
5f £2,843 (9 declared)

1 (1) 412501 Broadstairs Beauty (7) (D) D Shaw 8-9-8 R Winston (5) ★ 85
2 (6) 0/0300 Nilwity (12) R Hodges 4-9-2 ... R Perham 86
3 (7) 00000- Windrush Boy (239) (CD) M R Bosley 8-9-2 ... Aimee Cook (5) 77
4 (4) 000-05 Caution (7) S Gollings 4-8-13 ... K Fallon ●90
5 (9) 3600-0 Heavenly Miss (12) (D) J Bridger 4-8-13 .. G Duffield ★ 84
6 (8) 44-208 Songsheet (104) (CD) M Saunders 5-8-13 ... P P Murphy (3) 88
7 (3) 2-0310 Quite Happy (8) (D) (BF) Dr J Scargill 3-8-9 . R Cochrane 89
8 (2) 0040-6 Katyushka (35) D Chappell 3-8-6 ... J Reid 88
9 (5) 25060- Swift Time (289) M R Bosley 3-8-6 ... C Rutter —

Betting: 9-4 Quite Happy, 7-2 Broadstairs Beauty, 4-1 Caution, 11-2 Songsheet, 7-1 Nilwity, 16-1 Windrush Boy, Heavenly Miss, Katyushka, 20-1 Swift Time.

● Today's meeting at Pontefract is subject to a 7am inspection. The Yorkshire course, which lost last Tuesday's card owing to waterlogging, has been hit by more rain. Norman Gundill, clerk of the course, passed the track fit for racing yesterday, but warned that the meeting would be in doubt if there is further appreciable rain.

Warwick evening programme

	RON COX	TOP FORM
6.45	Lights Of Home	Academy Star
7.15	Tanshan	Tanshan
7.45	Keen Dancer	Carburton (nb)
8.15	Loch Fyne	Almost Amber
8.45	Rewardia	Vice Presidential
9.15	Unchanged	Unchanged

Left-handed track of 1¾m with 2½f run-in; 5f track bears left after halfway. Sharp track with the emphasis on speed.
Going: Good to soft, good in places. ★ Denotes blinkers.
Draw: High numbers favoured up to 1m.
Seven day winners: 7.45 Carburton.
Blinkered first time: 8.45 Theatre Of Dreams, Frolicking. **Visored:** 8.45 Crofters Edge.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing.

6.45 GALLOWS HILL APP H'CAP SKY
1m 3f £3,365 (13 declared)

1 (1) 0/405- Academy Star (269) (BF) J L Harris 4-9-10 ... P Fessey ●90
2 (10) 0/001- Show Faith (265) R Hannon 8-9-7 ... L Newman (7) 88
3 (5) 00-420 Atlantic Mist (14) (D) B Millman 5-9-0 ... Cheryl Nosworthy (7) ★ 89
4 (7) -30020 First Frame (9) J Eyre 3-8-10 ... A McCarthy 85
5 (2) 10-432 Blowing Away (4) M Tompkins 4-8-8 ... R Smith (5) 86
6 (13) 06000/ Prince Of Spades (J492) M Oglon 6-8-6 ... Joanna Badger (7) —
7 (11) 4-0063 Lights Of Home (13) Miss C Johnsey 4-8-6 M Pollard (5) 85
8 (8) 003006 English Invader (16) C Dwyer 7-8-0 ... J Gotobed (5) —
9 (12) 50-050 Flicker (28) Lord Huntingdon 3-7-13 . Aimee Cook (3) ★ 82
10 (4) 60-000 Tol (5) P Bowen 3-7-10 ... Iona Wands (3) —
11 (3) 003-00 Imperial Glen (28) M Usher 4-7-10 ... J Fowle (5) —
12 (8) 304400 Welcome Lu (12) J L Harris 5-7-10 ... S Righton (5) 78
13 (6) 000-03 Belle de Monfort (16) J Spearing 3-7-10 R Brisland (7) 76

Betting: 7-2 Show Faith, 4-1 Blowing Away, 6-1 Atlantic Mist, Lights Of Home, 8-1 Academy Star, First Frame, Flicker, 14-1 Imperial Glen

7.15 HAZY DAYS STAKES 3YO SKY
1m 3f £3,236 (7 declared)

1 (2) 00- Dudley Allen (246) T Clement 9-0 ... T G McLaughlin —
2 (6) 0-0 Freddie Mac (16) G Bravery 9-0 ... M Fenton —
3 (5) 0-22 Richmond Hill (24) B Hills 9-0 ... K Darley 88
4 (7) Tai Tam Warrior H Collingridge 9-0 ... M Rimmer —
5 (1) 4 Tanshan (16) A Stewart 9-0 ... W Roberts ●90
6 (4) 0 Tory Boy (16) I Williams 9-0 ... T Sprake 88
7 (6) 350- Latin Nexus (381) P Cole 8-9 ... T Quinn 84

Betting: evens Tanshan, 7-4 Richmond Hill, 9-2 Latin Nexus, 16-1 Tory Boy, 20-1 Tai Tam Warrior, 25-1 Freddie Mac, 33-1 Dudley Allen.

7.45 GVA GRIMLEY HANDICAP SKY
1m 4½f £3,850 (6 declared)

1 (1) 22-661 Carburton (7) (6lb ex) J Glover 5-9-12 ... J Fortune ●90
2 (6) -64220 Andanson (50) D Murray Smith 4-9-11 ... C Lowther 87
3 (8) 352-30 Speaker's Chair (33) R Charlton 3-8-13 ... T Sprake 88
4 (4) 4045-6 Keen Dancer (58) (BF) M Pipe 4-8-12 ... M Roberts 84
5 (3) 31-560 Doc Ryan's (35) (BF) M Ryan 4-8-11 ... P McCabe (3) —
6 (2) 2-4121 Bathe In Light (96) Lord Huntingdon 4-8-10 .. D Harrison 88

Betting: 11-4 Carburton, 3-1 Bathe In Light, 4-1 Keen Dancer, 9-2 Andanson, 6-1 Speaker's Chair, 8-1 Doc Ryan's

8.15 EBF ROYAL MAIDEN FILLIES' STAKES 2YO SKY
5f £3,560 (11 declared)

1 (10) 5 Almost Amber (16) J Gosden 8-11 ... W Ryan ●90
2 (9) Avondale Girl C Dwyer 8-11 ... F Lynch —
3 (4) Enchanted Isle C Dwyer 8-11 ... J Gotobed (7) —
4 (8) Hi-Jenny W G M Turner 8-11 ... D McGaffin (7) —
5 (7) U0 Jessinca (22) A P Jones 8-11 ... S Drowne —
6 (6) Juanita P Walwyn 8-11 ... J Carroll —
7 (11) 5 Key (23) R Hannon 8-11 ... R Hughes 85
8 (5) 5 Loch Fyne (14) W Muir 8-11 ... J Weaver 88
9 (3) Polski D Ffrench Davis 8-11 ... P McCabe (3) —
10 (2) 54 Top Order (16) P Cole 8-11 ... T Quinn 87
11 (1) 0 Tropical Forest (12) M Muggeridge 8-11 ... D Griffiths —

Betting: 9-4 Top Order, 7-2 Almost Amber, 5-1 Key, 7-1 Loch Fyne, 10-1 Hi-Jenny, Juanita, 12-1 Enchanted Isle

8.45 RAINBOW CLAIMING STAKES 3YO
7f £2,847 (20 declared)

1 (19) 00 Sandia Point (28) J Glover 9-3 ... S D Williams —
2 (14) 50-050 Vice Presidential (16) T Etherington 9-3 ... D Harrison ●90
3 (10) -00024 Theatre Of Dreams (7) K Burke 9-2 ... N Callan (7) ★ 83
4 (8) 0 Tom Tom (14) Miss J Craze 9-1 ... S Webster —
5 (11) 0-6000 Crofters Edge (28) A Jarvis 8-13 ... B Sweeney ★ —
6 (1) 00-100 Henry The Proud (26) J Berry 8-13 ... P Fessey (3) 86
7 (6) 0- Linguistic Dancer (238) A Newcombe 8-8 ... F Lynch —
8 (9) 161360 She's A Gem (42) (D) Mrs N Macauley 8-8 P McCabe (3) —
9 (17) 046 Imraros (14) R Hollinshead 8-7 ... S Clarke (7) —
10 (15) 00 Lamnation (16) K Burke 8-4 ... T Sprake —
11 (13) 480300 Pearly Queen (12) G Bravery 8-4 ... J Carroll —
12 (4) 040000 Estopped (21) M Quinn 8-3 ... N Kennedy ★ 84
13 (6) 0 Caprioura (16) J L Harris 8-2 ... M Pollard (7) —
14 (12) P6-005 Goldenacres (16) J Neville 8-1 ... N Varley —
15 (7) 65-250 Miss Scooter (16) A P Jones 8-0 ... S Drowne 87
16 (16) 0-0003 Pulwee (12) P Dalton 7-12 ... J Bramhill 83
17 (18) 530-50 Rewardia (6) P Evans 7-12 ... A McCarthy (3) —
18 (2) -00400 Frolicking (10) W G M Turner 7-10 ... A Nicholls (7) ★ —
19 (3) 000000 Nakrass Gil Mocab (10) M Usher 7-10 ... M Candia 84
20 (20) 60000 Lady Mabel (12) J Bethell 7-10 ... Darren Moffatt (3) —

Betting: 5-1 Vice Presidential, 6-1 Rewardia, 7-1 Theatre Of Dreams, Henry The Proud, 8-1 She's A Gem, Pulwee, Frolicking, 10-1 Miss Scooter

9.15 'NURSERY WOOD' HANDICAP
2m £3,417 (14 declared)

1 (12) 10-224 Ourlouraeven (26) (D) (BF) J Eyre 5-10-0 ... J Weaver 88
2 (14) 41-661 Unchanged (24) (D) J A Harris 6-9-12 ... S Righton (7) ●90
3 (6) 101532 Noufari (24) (D) R Hollinshead 7-9-10 ... A McCarthy (3) 85
4 (13) 32-000 Sudest (24) (C) I Balding 4-9-10 ... J Fortune —
5 (11) 0-4336 Sea Freedom (16) G Balding 7-9-8 ... S Drowne ★ 89
6 (9) 60202/ Major's Law (J622) R Simpson 9-9-4 ... M Gallagher —
7 (4) -03061 Golden Hadeer (21) (C) (D) M Ryan 7-8-11 ... P McCabe (3) —
8 (1) 6/0-64 World Express (10) B Millman 8-8-8 ... T Sprake 88
9 (3) 20050- Woodland Nymph (J355) D Murray Smith 4-8-7 C Lowther 89
10 (2) 54-250 Golden Melody (J24) M Heaton-Ellis 4-8-6 ... T Quinn 84
11 (8) 0550-0 Sefion Blake (17) M Meagher 4-8-4 ... J Carroll ★ 86
12 (10) 0-0004 Classic Dame (16) Miss A Stokell 5-8-2 ... P Fessey (3) 87
13 (5) 46-225 Coleridge (16) (CD) J Sheehan 10-7-11 ... P Doe (5) ★ 85
14 (7) 5005/0 Lajadhal (29) P Purdy 9-7-10 ... Amanda Sanders —

Betting: 7-2 Unchanged, 4-1 Ourlouraeven, 5-1 Noufari, 6-1 Sea Freedom, 8-1 Golden Hadeer, World Express, 9-1 Sudest, 12-1 Golden Melody, 14-1 Coleridge

Pontefract with form guide

	RON COX	TOP FORM
2.45	Sugar Cube Treat	First Musical
3.15	Samspet	Berf's Gift
3.45	Al Reet	Winston
4.15	Foist	Bowlers Boy
4.45	*Island Hero*	*Island Hero*
5.15	Chimes Of Peace	Advance East

Left-handed, undulating course of 2m with run-in of just over 2f. Premium on stamina.
Going: Soft, heavy patches. ● 7am INSPECTION ★ Denotes blinkers.
Draw: High numbers preferred up to 1m.
Seven day winners: 5.15 Bend Wavy.
Blinkered first time: None. **Visored:** 2.45 Gypsy Music.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J.Jumps.

2.45 JUNE MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES 2YO
5f £2,528 (10 declared)

101 (6) 022 Califinalotyounard (21) J J O'Neill 8-5 ... W Supple 89
102 (7) 05 Indecision (17) T Easterby 8-5 ... L Charnock 82
103 (10) Masarbier D Arbuthnot 8-5 ... S Whitworth —
104 (1) 02 Red Amazon (7) J Berry 8-5 ... G Carter 84
105 (5) 03 Petuchino (29) R Johnson Houghton 8-2 ... C Lowther 85
106 (8) 0 Sugar Cube Treat (17) M Mullineaux 8-3 ... F Norton 86
107 (4) 222 First Musical (28) M Brittain 8-0 ... D Mernagh (7) ●90
108 (3) 034 Gypsy Music (29) G Oldroyd 8-0 ... P Fessey (3) ★ 86
109 (9) Dispol Safa P Calver 7-12 ... Dale Gibson —
110 (2) 00 Hangkirk Lady (35) C Fairhurst 7-12 ... T Williams —

Betting: 5-2 First Musical, 9-2 Red Amazon, 11-2 Petuchino, Gypsy Music, 7-1 Califinalotyounard, 10-1 Indecision, 12-1 Sugar Cube Treat, 16-1 Dispol Safa

FORM GUIDE - Califinalotyounard: Disputed lead inside final furlong, no extra towards finish, 2nd of 12, ¾l behind Charlie Girl at Musselburgh 5f mdn auct. Gd-Fm. **Indecision:** Soon chasing leaders, kept on final 2f, 5th of 12, ... behind Cheyenne Gold, with **Sugar Cube Treat** ... at Haydock 5f mdn auct. Sd. **Red Amazon:** Always chasing leaders, kept on under pressure final furlong, 2nd of 11, ... behind Pal Express River at Hamilton 5f mdn auct. Gd. **Petuchino:** Led 1f, every chance when edged right over 1f out, one pace, 3rd of 12, ... behind ... Promise at Bath 5f nov. Gd. **First Musical:** Led, headed just inside final furlong, no extra with winner, 2nd of 12, ... behind Flanders, with **Gypsy Music** (gave 7lb) 4th, btn 10l, at Beverley 5f mdn auct. Sd.

3.15 DEWSBURY SELLING STAKES
1m 2f £2,469 (9 declared)

201 (7) 00-0 Grey Prospect (24) M Bastan 4-9-4 ... D Mernagh (7) —
202 (9) 6000-0 Samspet (32) R Fahey 4-9-4 ... R Winston (5) 84
203 (1) -06556 Saseedo (7) (C) Mrs A E Johnson 8-9-4 ... G Carter —
204 (4) 000-00 Mashkorah (10) T Wall 4-8-13 ... J Weaver —
205 (5) 00 Peristrodima (30) R Bastiman 3-8-5 ... Dean McKeown —
206 (8) 000-00 Bella With A Zee (37) N Graham 3-8-0 ... L Charnock —
207 (6) 33 Berf's Gift (2) (BF) Mrs M Reveley 3-8-0 ... Dale Gibson ●86
208 (7) 0 Slowzanna (12) J Turner 3-8-0 ... W Supple —
209 (8) Sasy Wells J Parkes 3-8-0 ... T Williams —

Betting: 2-1 Berf's Gift, 3-1 Saseedo, 6-1 Bella With A Zee, 8-1 Samspet, Peristrodima, 14-1 Slowzanna, Sasy Wells

FORM GUIDE - Samspet: Led until headed over 4f out, gradually weakened, 7th of 13, ... behind ... at Hamilton 1m hcap, Sft. **Saseedo:** Started slowly, switched right halfway, headway 2f out, stayed on ... behind High Premium at Leicester 1m claim, Fm. **Berf's Gift:** Held up and pulled hard, headway over 3f out, one pace final furlong behind Chenstred at Newmarket 1m sell. Gd.

3.45 BOROUGH HANDICAP
1m £3,262 (9 declared)

301 (1) 0-4432 Barresbo (13) (BF) C Fairhurst 4-9-10 ... J Weaver 89
302 (6) 650-00 Foxes Tail (13) (D) Miss S Hall 4-9-7 ... R Winston (5) 85
303 (7) 00/006 Fallah (7) Lady Herries 4-9-5 ... K Darley —
304 (8) 5-4242 Al Reet (5) (BF) S Bowring 7-8-10 ... Dean McKeown 87
305 (2) 06-032 Rosa Royale (10) (BF) W Storey 4-8-10 ... J Fanning 86
306 (9) 03-00 Tie Break (3) W Haggas 3-8-6 ... J Carroll —
307 (4) 300-40 Winston (2) (D) J Bethell 5-8-4 ... D Harrison ●90
308 (3) 54403/ Tapatch (J8) M W Easterby 10-8-1 ... S Finnamore (7) —
309 (5) 64-000 Kalis Kamalie (24) (D) Mrs G Rees 5-7-12 ... F Norton ★ —

Betting: 3-1 Al Reet, 4-1 Winston, 9-2 Barresbo, Rosa Royale, 8-1 Tie Break, 12-1 Foxes Tail, Fallah, Tapatch

FORM GUIDE - Barresbo: In touch, headway to dispute lead 2f out, outpaced entering final furlong, stayed on towards finish, 2nd of 16, nk behind Thatched, with **Foxes Tail** (gave 3lb) 9th, btn 8l, at Redcar 1m1f hcap. Gd-Fm. **Fallah:** Prominent until weakened well over 1f out, 6th of 16, 13l behind Brandon Jack at Windsor 1m2f hcap. Gd-Fm. **Al Reet:** Tracked leaders, every chance over 1f out, not quicken inside final furlong, 2nd of 12, 1l behind Kass Alhawa at Beverley 7f hcap, Gd-Sft. **Rosa Royale:** Always chasing winner, effort 3f out, no impression, 2nd of 11, 8l behind The Muero's at Ayr 1m hcap, Fm. **Tie Break:** Held up, headway over 2f out, soon ridden, not reach leaders behind Lucy Rockstar at Haydock 1m hcap, Gd. **Winston:** Raced stands' side, behind, effort and bumped over 2f out, soon weakened behind Topton at Doncaster 7f hcap. Gd.

4.15 TAVERN GROUP H'CAP (SHOWCASE RACE)
6f £7,830 (13 declared)

401 (1) 0060-0 Gaelic Storm (11) (D) M Johnston 4-10-0 ... J Carroll 86
402 (4) 02-606 Return Of Amin (27) (D) J Bethell 4-9-13 ... P Fessey (3) 84
403 (2) 10-210 Bobbie Goodfellow (25) (D) P Walwyn 3-9-9 ... W R Swinburn 88
404 (7) 121-00 Pappiatt (23) (D) D Nicholls 4-9-9 ... Alex Greaves 84
405 (13) 00-360 Lago di Varano (32) R Whitaker 6-9-8 ... Dean McKeown ★ 89
406 (8) 5-3300 That Man Again (16) S C Williams 6-9-4 ... D Williams (7) 80
407 (6) 0-0006 Indian Spark (11) (D) J Goldie 4-9-3 ... G Peers —
408 (5) 0-0000 Treasure Touch (13) (D) D Nicholls 4-9-1 ... F Norton 82
409 (10) /60000 Bawa Al Bassamaat (2) (D) M Brittain 6-8-11 ... G Carter —
410 (13) 00-000 Bowlers Boy (10) (CD) J J Quinn 5-8-10 ... R Winston (5) ●90
411 (5) 124200 Jolies Jewel (25) (D) M Chapman 3-8-9 ... C Lowther 87
412 (11) 0-0115 Foist (31) (D) (BF) M W Easterby 6-8-7 ... T Lucas 87
413 (3) 000-20 Maltesmla (16) (D) (BF) S Bowring 5-8-2 ... Dale Gibson ★ 86

Betting: 7-2 Foist, 6-1 Robin Goodfellow, 7-1 Bowlers Boy, Maltesmla, Return Of Amin, 8-1 Pappiatt, 10-1 Lago Di Varano, Jolies Jewel, 14-1 Treasure Touch, 20-1 Gaelic Storm, That Man Again, Indian Spark.

FORM GUIDE - Gaelic Storm: Prominent, effort and hung left 3f out, hung left and weakened over 1f out, 7th of 10, 11l behind Redoubtable at Ayr 7f hcap. Gd-Fm. **Return Of Amin:** Tracked leaders, no headway approaching final furlong, 6th of 13, 4l behind World Premier at York 6f hcap, Gd. **Pappiatt:** Behind, some headway over 1f out, not much room and soon beaten, 10th of 11, 11l behind Benzoe at Thirsk 6f hcap, Gd-Fm. **Lago Di Varano:** Outpaced, always behind, last of 8, 13l behind Westcourt Magic at Chester 5f hcap, Gd-Fm. **That Man Again:** Led 2f, close up until beaten well over 1f out, 8th of 10, 8l behind Daawe at Doncaster 6f stks, Gd. **Indian Spark:** Chased leaders until weakened over 1f out, 6th of 10, 11l behind Redoubtable at Ayr 7f hcap, Gd-Fm. **Jolies Jewel:** Soon driven along, chased leaders over 3f, soon lost place, 14th of 19, 14l behind Ho Leng, with **Bobbie Goodfellow** (gave 16lb) last, btn 20l, at York 7f hcap, Gd. **Foist:** Raced far side, chased leaders until no headway final 2f, 5th of 16, 4¾l behind Double March at Nottingham 6f app hcap, Gd. **Maltesmla:** Chased leaders, wandered and not clear run halfway, soon lost place, 9th of 10, 12l behind Arpan at Catterick 5f hcap, Sft.

4.45 YOUNGSTERS NOVICE STAKES 2YO
6f £3,100 (10 declared)

501 (5) 21 Island Hero (16) (D) J Nocada 9-4 ... W R Swinburn ●90
502 (1) 13 Boa Aml (17) (BF) J Berry 9-0 ... K Darley 83
503 (8) 37 Pet Express Flyer (7) (D) P Haslam 9-0 ... J Weaver 84
504 (6) 313 Springs Noblequest (16) T Easterby 8-13 ... L Charnock 79
505 (3) Air of Esteem P Haslam 8-12 ... P Goode (7) —
506 (4) Press Times T Easterby 8-12 ... D Harrison —
507 (7) Rex Is Okay S Bowring 8-12 ... Dean McKeown —
508 (2) 0 Ultra Calm (28) P Haslam 8-12 ... C Lowther —
509 (9) Evasive Step T Easterby 8-7 ... J Carroll —
510 (10) 061143 Palace Green (7) (D) D Chapman 8-7 ... T Williams —

Betting: 5-2 Island Hero, 7-2 Springs Noblequest, 4-1 Boa Aml, 5-1 Pet Express Flyer, 10-1 Palace Green, 12-1 Evasive Step, 14-1 Press Times, 16-1 Ultra Calm

FORM GUIDE - Island Hero: Made all, hung left over 1f out, ridden inside final furlong, ran on well, beating Tamrnam ... at Lingfield 6f mdn, Gd-Fm. **Boa Aml:** Led over 4f, no extra, 3rd of 5, 5l behind Red Prairie at Pontefract 6f stks, Gd-Fm. **Pet Express Flyer:** With leader, outpaced 2f out, kept on to lead final furlong, beating Red Amazon ... at Hamilton 5f mdn auct, Gd. **Springs Noblequest:** Chased leaders until outpaced approaching final furlong, 3rd of 4, ... behind ... at Newcastle 5f nov, Gd-Fm. **Palace Green:** Soon close up, hung right most of way, kept on final furlong, 3rd of 5, ... behind Beverley Monkey at Hamilton 5f claim, Gd.

5.15 PONTEFRACT APPRENTICE SERIES H'CAP (ROUND 2)
1m 2f £2,237 (8 declared)

601 (3) 60-661 Bend Wavy (3) (6lb ex) T Caldwell 6-10-6 ... Rebecca Bolton (7) 88
602 (1) 50-000 Sandhaggedagain (9) M W Easterby 4-9-7 ... S Finnamore (5) —
603 (8) 44-136 Advance East (17) (CD) M Dods 6-8-10 ... P Fredericks ●90
604 (5) 00-015 Chimes Of Peace (17) J Eyre 3-8-2 ... S Buckley 85
605 (7) -05005 Gilling Dancer (17) P Calver 5-7-11 ... J McAuley 82
606 (6) 0050-0 Noirie (28) M Brittain 4-7-11 ... D Mernagh —
607 (4) 500060 Foolish Flutter (22) R Bastiman 4-7-10 ... C Cogan (3) —
608 (2) 006000 Distant King (9) G Kelly 5-7-10 ... P Goode (5) —

Betting: 3-1 Advance East, 7-2 Chimes Of Peace, 4-1 Sandhaggedagain, 7-1 Bend Wavy, Foolish Flutter, 10-1 Gilling Dancer, 12-1 Noirie, Distant King.

FORM GUIDE - Bend Wavy: Held up, headway 3f out, led 1½f out, ran on well, beat Saint Albert 1½l at Haydock 1m3f amat hcap, Gd. **Advance East:** Held up, effort over 3f out, never able challenge, 5th of 18, 18l behind Indiana Princess at Pontefract 1m4f hcap, Gd-Fm. **Chimes Of Peace:** Tracked leaders, every chance 2f out, no extra well inside final furlong, 5th of 16, 3l behind Chaulleer at Pontefract 1m hcap, Gd-Fm.

Nottingham

	RON COX	TOP FORM
2.30	Forante	Gold Crystal
3.00	Hyde Park	Ellens Lad
3.30	Golden Dice	Green Card
4.00	Moon Gorge	Moon Gorge
4.30	Spa Lane	Ultimate Smoothie (nap)
5.00	Hunt Hill	Darling Clover

Left-handed level 1½m track with 4½f run-in. Straight 6f.
Going: Good, good to firm in places. ★ Denotes blinkers
Draw: High best over 6f; low favoured 1m.
Seven day winners: 5.00 Westminster, Hunt Hill.
Blinkered first time: 3.00 Ellens Lad; 4.30 Urgent Swift. **Visored:** None.
Figures in brackets after horse's name denote days since last outing. J.Jumps.

2.30 EBF MAIDEN STAKES 2YO
5f £3,790 (10 declared)

1 Frankie-D ... K Fallon —
2 3 Gold Crystal (15) ... Pat Eddery ●90
3 It's Our Secret ... D Biggs —
4 My Man Friday ... J Reid —
5 Riverblue Mrs J Ramsden 9-0 ... J Fortune —
6 Zoille ... R Hills —
7 Bewdeen P ... S Sanders —
8 3 Entropy (16) R Hannon 8-9 ... R Hughes 88
9 Forante ... T Sprake —
10 Honey Bee R Hannon 8-9 ... Dane O'Neill —

Betting: ... Forante, 11-4 Entropy, 5-1 Zoille, 6-1 Gold Crystal, 8-1 Honey Bee, 12-1 It's Our Secret, Riverblue

3.00 STANLEY GRAND CASINO HANDICAP
5f £4,240 (13 declared)

1 (9) 6046-4 Ellens Lad (29) (D) E Alston 4-10-0 ... K Fallon ★ ●90
2 ... Dazzle (16) (D) J Glover 7-9-13 ... S D Williams 87
3 ... Kira (13) (D) J Eyre 8-9-13 ... L Dettori 88
4 ... Clan Chief (21) (D) J Arnold 5-9-6 ... T Quinn 87
5 ... Mungo Park (4) (D) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-6 ... J Fortune 86
6 ... Cadeaux Cher (12) B Hills 4-9-4 ... R Hills ★ 86
7 ... Happy Days Again (9) (D) J Wharton 3-9-4 ... A Nicholls (7) 87
8 ... Longwick Lad (12) (B) W Muir 5-9-4 ... J Reid 87
9 ... High Carry (9) (D) N Tinkler 3-8-3 ... Kim Tinkler 87
10 ... Bramble Bear (22) (D) M Blanshard 4-9-3 ... D Sweeney 83
11 ... Beau Venture (21) (D) F Ponting 10-9-1 ... T Sprake 86
12 ... Hyde Park (9) (D) Sir M Prescott 4-9-1 ... G Duffield —
13 ... Ocker (4) (C) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-0 ... P McCabe (3) 87

Betting: 5-1 Clan Chief, 7-1 Dazzle, Ellens Lad, Mungo Park, 8-1 Cadeaux Cher, Bramble Bear, Ocker, 9-1 Kira, Longwick Lad, Hyde Park

3.30 HOLME PIERREPONT CONDITIONS STAKES
1m 54yds £5,170 (6 declared)

1 ... Green Card (22) (D) S Woods 4-9-1 ... Pat Eddery ●90
2 ... The Graduate (13) J Toller 4-9-1 ... S Sanders 77
3 ... West-A-Minute (17) (D) R Hollinshead 5-9-1 ... L Dettori 88
4 ... 431 Cyber World (16) (D) Mrs J Cecil 3-8-7 ... W Ryan 85
5 ... Golden Dice (16) H Cecil 3-8-7 ... K Fallon 87
6 ... 1- Second Wind (417) P Cole 3-8-4 ... T Quinn 89

Betting: 9-4 Golden Dice, 7-2 Cyber World, 4-1 Green Card, 5-1 West-A-Minute, Second Wind, 16-1 The Graduate.

4.00 STANTON BY DALE FILLIES' HANDICAP 3YO
1m 54yds £4,663 (13 declared)

1 (3) -41 Myzomela (21) (D) J Gosden 9-7 ... L Dettori 88
2 (13) 510-50 Rasleh (33) (D) M Johnston 9-7 ... M Roberts 87
3 (4) 51 Cornflower Fields (10) (D) R Hannon 9-4 ... R Hughes 82
4 (6) -11635 Moon Gorge (16) (D) W Jarvis 9-4 ... W Ryan ●90
5 (5) 410-00 Misalliance (17) C Wall 9-2 ... G Hind 84
6 (11) 520-05 Sahara (23) P Cole 9-1 ... T Quinn 86
7 (7) 222-00 Mustique Dream (30) R Charlton 9-1 ... Pat Eddery 85
8 (15) 061-40 Respond (9) (D) (BF) G L Moore 8-10 ... Candy Morris 86
9 (2) -24134 Glider (104) (D) N Littmoden 8-10 ... A Nicholls (7) 84
10 (5) 0-002 Margone (12) (BF) G Wragg 8-8 ... J Reid ★ 86
11 (1) 90-400 Maoinstrea (9) A Jarvis 8-6 ... D Sweeney 87
12 (12) 300-04 Shalyah (12) (BF) Mrs J Ramsden 8-6 ... J Fortune 88
13 (6) 602-0 Hit The Spot (23) W Haggas 8-4 ... F Lynch 82

Betting: 7-4 Myzomela, 9-2 Moon Gorge, 8-1 Cornflower Fields, Margone, 9-1 Mustique Dream, 10-1 Shalyah, Sahara, 14-1 Rasleh, 16-1 Respond, Glider, Misalliance

4.30 WOODTHORPE HANDICAP
1m 6f £3,392 (18 declared)

1 (5) 20-005 Urgent Swift (18) M Pitman 5-10-0 ... W Ryan ★ —
2 (4) 1400-0 Tango King (25) (CD) J Portman 4-9-11 ... R Studholme (7) —
3 (16) 51505- Ultimate Smoothie (J80) (D) M Pipe 6-9-11 ... R Hughes ●90
4 (7) 30-004 Snow Partridge (7) P Cole 4-9-11 ... T Quinn ★ 79
5 (18) 6040 Include Me Out (13) J Wharton 4-9-7 ... M Roberts —
6 (6) 02214' Floating Line (587) (D) E Alston 10-9-4 ... S Sanders —
7 (3) 5540-2 Gee Bee Boy (7) A Jarvis 9-4 ... Pat Eddery 87
8 (3) 0250-2 Chabrol (J30) K Wingrove 5-9-3 ... M Fenton 88
9 (8) 0-4123 Sadler's Blaze (9) (CD) P Harris 4-9-1 ... L Dettori ★ 85
10 (9) 6001- Cliburnel News (266) (C) D Shaw 8-9-0 ... R Mullen (3) 88
11 (1) 00-250 Limelight (16) P Murphy 4-8-9 ... S Drowne 87
12 (10) 30-506 Maftun (28) G M Moore 6-8-8 ... J Fortune 81
13 (11) 050-60 Shining Dancer (6) S Dow 6-8-9 ... D O'Donohoe —
14 (13) 0/00-0 Old Red (12) (D) Mrs M Reveley 8-8-8 ... A Culhane —
15 (15) 466-33 Piccadilly (17) T Etherington 3-8-3 ... G Duffield 84
16 (14) 006-13 Spa Lane (12) (CD) Mrs S Lamyman 5-8-3 ... R Lappin 88
17 (17) 2-1200 Shaldyr (8) R Hollinshead 7-8-2 ... A McCarthy (3) 84
18 (12) 00/00- Young Dalesman (J28) A Streeter 5-8-1 ... R Daly (3) —

Betting: 11-2 Chabrol, 6-1 Spa Lane, 7-1 Ultimate Smoothie, Gee Bee Boy, 8-1 Sadler's Blaze, Piccadilly, 10-1 Cliburnel News, 12-1 Old Red, Shaldyr

5.00 SHERWOOD APPRENTICES' STAKES
1m 2f £3,057 (18 declared)

1 (10) -13220 Chairmans Choice (52) (D) A Jarvis 8-9-5 ... S Clancy (7) 84
2 (3) 0-0061 Rival Bid (14) (D) Mrs N Macauley 10-9-5 ... P McCabe 88
3 (17) 0030-1 Westminster (7) M Tompkins 6-9-5 ... A Nicholls (5) ★ 88
4 (5) 00-636 Classic Colours (24) G Yardley 5-9-3 ... R Studholme (5) 88
5 (15) 644-03 Danka (61) K Comerford 4-9-3 ... N Callan (7) ★ 85
6 (12) /0365- Java Shrine (308) (D) P Eccles 7-9-3 ... R Cody-Boutcher (5) 88
7 (7) 03642- Meiliour (180) Lady Herries 4-9-3 ... S Avon (7) 86
8 (9) 68044/ Sabbar (J45) P Bevan 5-9-3 ... D Denby (5) —
9 (5) 50-050 Steel Cay (7) R O'Sullivan 4-9-3 ... P Doe (3) 85
10 (1) /414-0 Sebmozzie (16) K Bridgwater 7-9-3 ... Darren Moffatt —
11 (4) 0/05-0 Top Of The Green (21) P Makin 4-9-3 ... D Griffiths —
12 (16) 000-04 Darling Clover (6) (D) R Bastiman 6-9-0 ... H Bastiman (5) ●90
13 (2) 5210-0 Jukebox Jive (17) C Drew 4-9-0 ... G Faulkner (3) 86
14 (11) 440250 Thoughtful Kate (17) B Palling 4-9-0 ... A Daly —
15 (14) 000-1 Hunt Hill (3) Sir M Prescott 3-8-6 ... Gary Lund (7) 88
16 (16) 000-50 Daring News (26) O O'Neill 3-8-4 ... Aimee Cook (5) —
17 (13) 00-000 Glamorgan (13) M Pipe 3-8-4 ... R Smith —
18 (6) 00-004 Pefane (12) J Arnold 3-8-4 ... C Teague ★ 88

Betting: 2-1 Hunt Hill, 11-4 Westminster, 7-1 Meiliour, 8-1 Chairmans Choice, Rival Bid, Darling Clover

KEEPING TRACK
0891 222 +

	COMMENTARY	RESULTS
PONTEFRACT	771	781
NOTTINGHAM	772	782
WINDSOR (E)	773	783
WARWICK (E)	774	784
ALL COURSES COMMENTARY	0891 222 780	
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PARTING SHOT



Long night of Sheepskin and in Rockney horror show

SCREEN

Martin Kelner

Dame Edna is funny and Rod Stewart has lived a little, but Motty does not have much of a tale to tell

هكذا من الاصل

صكذا من الاجل



PARTING SHOT



Shadow squad . . . Rhythm is the name of the game as the Stroud Samba Band go through their paces at London's South Bank during United Nations of Football, the Guardian-sponsored World Cup Festival staged on Saturday as a celebration of the people's game

Photograph by Richard Olivier

Long night of the Sheepskin anorak in Rockney horror show

SCREEN BREAK

Martin Kelner

IN some things I am with Glenn — not necessarily on individual selections but on his general principle that performers who are past their best, however popular they may once have been, have no place in this World Cup. Unfortunately somebody at the BBC takes a different view, and booked Chas and Dave to appear on The Full Motty, BBC1's tribute to commentator John Motson.

For younger readers, Chas and Dave are the inventors of Rockney, an uncomfortable marriage of what we in the Seventies used to call rock music to the Cockney music hall tradition; jellied eels in the Old Kent Road and all that. Chas and Dave gave the world such deathless lyrics as "I've got my beer in the sideboard here, I don't care 'cause I've got my beer in the sideboard here", and "My wife's got more rabbit than Sainsbury's", and thus richly deserved their place in the dustbin of cultural history, from where they were plucked by the producers of this pointless programme.

Dame Edna is funny and Rod Stewart has lived a little, but Motty does not have much of a tale to tell

They closed the show with a song about Motson, which sounded to me like a retread of one they did some years ago called Snooker Loopy. We got shots of the "celebrity" audience self-consciously clapping along to Chas's plonking — or Dave's; can anyone tell the difference? — an experience which carried poignant echoes of my days in local newspapers, when I occasionally used to cover meetings of the Hanham Bright Hour Club at an old people's home near Bristol.

The Full Motty was clearly a title in search of a programme. The show was designed to look like An Audience With Dame Edna or Rod Stewart but, whereas Dame Edna is funny, and Rod Stewart has lived a little, Motty, bless him, does not have much of a tale to tell. He wears a sheepskin coat, he knows who won the Third Division North in 1962, and . . . that's it.

It did not help that the celebrities had apparently been recruited mostly from Madame Tussaud's. The best the camera could manage on its sweep round the audience was Adam Faith and Tony Banks. Oh, and Jimmy Tarbuck, speaking on behalf of the show-biz golf crowd. "Lynchie [Kenny Lynch], Adam Faith and me, we all love you," said Tarbuck. I think this was meant as a ringing endorsement from the British equivalent of Sinatra's rat-pack, Tarbie's mouse-pack.

Other "highlights" included a song from Vinnie Jones and a poem from Craig Charles. The only thing that stopped me demanding a licence fee refund was the thought of the look of startled pleasure on the faces of Chas and Dave when their agent phoned to say he had got them some prime-time on BBC1.

There was a pure Seventies moment, when Motty was challenged to match some World Cup shirts with the countries they represented. The shirts were modelled by five women — dolly birds, Faithie, Tarbie and Lynchie would probably call them — who (wait for it) lifted their tops to reveal whether Motty had the right answer. But the comic invention did not stop there. At the end of the line was a David Mellor lookalike in a Chelsea shirt. Layer upon layer.

English football's tendency towards laddish yobbery still thrives, despite what Gary Lineker told Channel 5's Shot Down In Flames, a documentary about the life and death of Justin Fashanu. Lineker's view was that football these days would have no problem with a black gay Christian footballer like Fashanu.

But Mick Dennis, a reporter who was working in East Anglia when Fashanu broke into the Norwich first team as a teenager, disagreed. "Soccer can handle drunks, junkies, wife-beaters and various other criminals," he said. "But it's not comfortable with Christians and certainly not with overt homosexuals."

This appeared to be something of an understatement, if the clips of Justin's brother John, taken from interviews in the early Nineties, were anything to go by.

John Fashanu spurned his brother, said neither he nor his team-mates would be happy sharing a dressing-room with Justin and added darkly that football was "like the Mafia. People close ranks". Unless attitudes have changed remarkably over the past six or seven years, football is not the shiny modern product the marketing types would have us believe. The English player is much as he ever was, only richer, as Glenn Hoddle is finding.

Shot Down In Flames was a useful counterpoint to the flood of back-slapping Football's-Coming-Home nonsense threatening to engulf us in advance of France '98. The programme benefited from not hiding the character flaws which contributed to Justin Fashanu's downfall. "Classic Greek tragedy," Dennis called it, with some justification.

Weekend results

FOOTBALL

FRIENDLIES: Belgium 1 Paraguay 0; Colombia 1 French Regional Second Division side 0; Croatia 7 Australia 0, Italy 7 Oise 0; Romania 5 Moldova 1, South Africa 1 Iceland 1, Tunisia 4 Wales 0, Yugoslavia 1 Switzerland 1.
WOMEN'S WORLD CUP QUALIFIER: Poland 3 Republic of Ireland 0.

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONALS: Australia 76 England 0; Zimbabwe 11 Wales 49.
TOUR MATCHES: New South Wales 10 Scotland 34, Western Province 12 Ireland 6.
PACIFIC RIM CHAMPIONSHIP (Tokyo) Japan 16 Hong Kong 17

RUGBY LEAGUE

SUPER LEAGUE
Castleford (6) 12
T: Flowers
G: Davis 2, Bonn, Maloney
St Helens (20) 34
T: Newlove 2, Hammond, Joynt, Long, Perelini
G: Long 5
Att: 7,182

London (10) 26
T: Gill 2, Beazley, Cotton, D Higgins
G: Chapman 3
Sheffield (4) 22
T: Senior 3, Shaw, Sovatabua
G: Vassilakopoulos

Warrington (18) 28
T: Forster 2, Eager, McCurrie, Wainwright
G: Roper 4
Bradford (10) 10
T: Calland, Vaikona
G: McNamara
Att: 6,064

Wigan (24) 34
T: Bell 2, Gilmour 2, Betts, Moore
G: Farrell 5
Salford (0) 6
T: Alker Goals: Russell
Att: 10,075

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Leeds	9	9	0	0	246	102	18
Wigan	9	8	0	1	262	82	16
Halifax	9	7	0	2	212	163	14
Bradford	9	6	0	3	194	137	12
St Helens	9	5	0	4	192	185	10
London	9	4	0	5	138	151	8
Warrington	9	4	0	5	160	221	8
Salford	9	3	0	6	149	164	6
Castleford	9	3	0	6	138	218	6
Sheffield	9	2	0	7	183	204	4
Hull	9	2	0	7	164	225	4
Huddersfield	9	1	0	8	112	316	2

FIRST DIVISION
Dewsbury (18) 18
T: Evans 2, S Williams
G: Eaton 3
Widnes (6) 16
T: Manihera, Munro, P Smith
G: Hewitt 2
Att: 1,117

Hull KR (8) 16
T: Kennedy, R Smith
G: Charles 3
DG: Charles, Sibary
Swinton (9) 10
T: Gartland
G: Gartland 2
DG: Gartland 2
Att: 2,076

Leigh (6) 16
T: Gunning, Street, Wingfield
G: Wingfield 2
Featherstone (14) 48
T: Chapman 2, Dickins 2, Kimmell 2, Fallins, Pratt
G: Fallins 8
Att: 935

Rochdale (14) 28
T: Kerr 2, Aston, Farrell, Swann
Goals: Gray 4
Wakefield (24) 46
T: Bostock 3, McDonald 2, Casey, I Hughes, A Hughes, Southernwood
G: Casey 5
Att: 1,014

Whitehaven (10) 16
T: Kiddie, Quirk, Walsh
G: Armstrong 2
Hunslet (10) 26
T: D'Arcy 2, Coyle, Windley
G: Ross 4, Ellis
Att: 903

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wakefield	17	13	1	3	450	276	27
Hunslet	17	11	1	5	429	264	23
Hull KR	17	11	1	5	375	264	23
Dewsbury	17	10	2	5	441	278	22
Swinton	17	10	0	7	381	286	20
Whitehaven	18	9	0	9	433	385	18
Featherstone	17	8	1	8	425	388	17
Keighley	17	7	0	10	315	414	14
Widnes	17	6	1	10	354	404	13
Leigh	18	4	0	14	319	658	8
Rochdale	18	2	1	15	300	587	5

SECOND DIVISION
Barrow (8) 12
T: Ruddy 2
G: Marwood 2
Lancashire Lynx (4) 22
T: Abram 2, Parsley
G: P Jones 4
DG: Donno, Kelly
Att: 812

Doncaster (14) 16
T: Cressaer, Alfie Goulbourne, Penney
G: Edwards 2
Bramley (16) 40
T: Middleton 2, Rivett 2, Eldershaw, Golden, Potter
G: I Smith 4, G Brown 2
Att: 442

Workington (2) 10
T: Roden
G: Fisher 3
Oldham (10) 27
T: Shaw 2, Darkes, Eckersley, Martindale
G: Wilkinson 3
DG: Wilkinson
Att: 1,057

York (0) 4
T: Godfrey
Batley (11) 19
T: Barnett, Wray
G: Price
DG: Barnett 3
Att: 718

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bramley	10	7	0	3	2??	162	14
Lancashire L	8	5	2	1	188	117	12
Oldham	9	5	1	3	184	167	11
York	9	5	0	4	172	133	10
Barrow	9	4	1	4	158	156	9
Batley	9	4	0	5	200	174	8
Workington	9	2	1	6	131	220	5
Doncaster	9	1	1	7	131	268	3

ACADEMY CHAMPIONSHIP: Castleford 20 St Helens 21, London 42 Wakefield 14, Warrington 42 Bradford 8, Wigan 38 Salford 12
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL LEAGUE: Round 13: Auckland 15 Penrith 14, Brisbane 16 Parramatta 20, Canterbury 4 North Sydney 38, South Sydney 6 Sydney City 30, Balmain 16 Melbourne 25

GOLF

ENGLISH OPEN (Hanbury Manor, Herts): **Final scores** (GB/Ire unless stated)

271 L Westwood 68 60 67 68
273 O Karlsson (Swe) 70 70 67 66; G Chalmers (Aus) 70 73 61 69
274 C Montgomerie 64 72 69 69
275 P Sjoland (Swe) 68 67 70 70
276 P Price 73 71 67 65
277 R Allenby (Aus) 67 71 70 69
278 R Wessels (SA) 68 69 70 71; J Singh (India) 71 69 67 71
280 K Storgaard (Den) 71 70 72 67; C O'Connor Jnr 71 70 68 71; M McNulty (Zim) 73 68 66 73; S Leaney (Aus) 66 69 70 75
281 M Campbell (NZ) 71 72 71 67; V Phillips 69 72 71 69; P Eales 69 72 70 70; G Evans 70 73 68 70; B May (US) 71 69 69 72; A Coltart 67 72 67 75
282 T Gogele (Ger) 70 73 70 69; R Claydon 71 70 72 69; J Robson 60 73 73 70; P Baker 69 72 70 71
283 P Walton 74 63 70 70; P Harrington 74 68 70 70; M Jonzon (Swe) 72 68 72 71; I Garbutt 70 72 70 71; D Cooper 68 76 68 71; N Joakimides (Fr) 65 74 72 72; S Webster 72 68 70 73
284 G Orr 75 69 68 72; J Rivero (Sp) 69 73 69 73; P Fulke (Swe) 72 70 69 73; M Hallberg (Swe) 72 72 66 74
285 M Mouland 72 72 72 69; E Darcy 71 72 71 71; P Affleck 74 65 74 72; D Robertson 68 73 71 73; A Wall 75 68 68 74
286 M Gronberg (Swe) 73 70 72 71; R Jacquelin (Fr) 69 71 73 73; R Rafferty 69 72 72 73; D Howell 74 69 70 73; T Bjorn (Den) 73 70 70 73; J Remesy (Fr) 70 71 71 74; F Tarnaud (Fr) 70 66 75 75; M A Jimenez (Sp) 68 72 70 76
287 D Clarke 72 72 75 68; P Mitchell 70 73 73 71; I Garrido (Sp) 70 74 71 72; G Owen 72 72 71 72; S Alker (NZ) 70 71 73 73; M Reale (It) 71 71 72 73; P Broadhurst 75 69 70 73; M Long (NZ) 71 70 72 74
288 D Gilford 72 71 76 69; R Muntz (Neth) 69 72 76 71; C Hainline (US) 71 69 75 73; S Tinning (Den) 74 70 71 73
289 S Richardson 70 71 74 74; T Gillis (Aus) 71 73 71 74; M Florioli (It) 72 68 74 75; A Sandywell 74 70 68 77
290 J Townsend (US) 70 73 75 72; W Riley (Aus) 68 73 76 73; S Allan (Aus) 73 70 73 74; I Giner (Sp) 75 68 73 74; A Sherborne 72 70 70 78; P Curry 73 71 68 78
292 C Watts 68 75 74 75; R Chapman 71 72 73 76; J Bickerton 74 70 72 76
296 H Clark 71 72 74 79
300 R Davis (Aus) 73 71 79 77

JERSEY SENIORS OPEN (La Moye). **Leading final scores**
211 B Shearer (Aus) 71 73 67
213 T Jacklin (Eng) 72 71 70
214 M Slater (Eng) 69 67 78; B Waites (Eng) 68 71 75; C Defoy (Wales) 72 87 77
215 B Masse (US) 72 70 73
216 D Creamer (Eng) 70 69 77
217 E Polland (NI) 73 71 73; A Garrido (Sp) 69 73 75; J Fourie (SA) 70 72 75; P Leonard (NI) 71 71 75
218 N Ratcliffe (Aus) 73 73 72; P Butler (Eng) 74 71 73; G Parkhill (NI) 74 69 75; L Higgins (Ire) 75 69 74
218 T Horton (Eng) 78 71 70; D O'Sullivan (Ire) 75 73 71; G Parslow (Aus) 73 75 71; H Inggs (SA) 77 69 73; M Gregson (Eng) 73 73 73; I Richardson (Eng) 72 74 73; N Wood (Scot) 74 68 77; D Jones (NI) 71 74 73

KEMPER OPEN (Potomac, Maryland): **Third-round leaders** (US unless stated)
201 F Funk 64 66 71
202 S Appleby (Aus) 70 63 69
203 C DiMarco 68 65 70
204 T Tolles 70 68 66
205 S Hoch 69 68 68; C Dennis 70 65 70; B Fabel 69 66 70
207 T Pernice 69 70 68; H Sutton 69 69 69; D Forsman 68 69 70
208 S Lyle (GB) 70 68 70; J Don Blake 68 70 70; R Black 68 68 72
209 W Wood 73 66 70; S Simpson 71 68 70; C Perry 65 74 70; N "Joe" Ozaki (Japan) 71 68 70; M Muehr 70 69 70; K Gibson 71 68 70; E Toledo (Mex) 69 69 71; M O'Meara 68 70 71; M Weir (Can) 67 69 73; J Durant 69 66 74; C Parry (Aus) 67 68 76
Also: 215 G Hnatiuk (Can) 74 67 72, T Dodds (Nam) 69 70 74 **215** J Parnevik (Swe) 69 71 75, D Barr (Can) 70 68 77 **217** V Singh (Fiji) 70 72 75 **222** W Grady (Aus) 69 72 81

PGA EUROPEAN CHALLENGE (Karlstein, Cz) **Leading final scores** (GB/Ire unless stated)
270 S Gallacher 63 71 69 67
272 E Simsek (Ger) 67 65 71 68
273 R Gonzalez (Arg) 62 71 67 67; M Olander (Swe) 68 64 68 73
274 F Howley 67 68 70 69; A Leboue (Fr) 69 71 67 67
275 A Lindberg (Swe) 66 71 69 70; D Park 71 68 58 68
277 O Edmond (Fr) 70 65 74 68; F Lindgren (Swe) 71 67 70 69
278 J Rystrom (Swe) 68 71 72 67; J Skold (Swe) 70 70 72 66; P Nyman (Swe) 69 69 69 71
Also: 279 D A Russell 71 69 68 71 **280** J Robinson 71 69 68 72. **281** G Sherry 70 71 70 70, P Sefton 74 67 73 67 **284** S Watson 70 70 71 73 S Andrew 71 72 71 70, S Quinlivan 69 74 72 69 **286** G Clark 69 70 77 70 M Blackey 67 72 70 77 **287** M Hazelden 68 75 72 72 **288** D Muscroft 68 74 74 72 **289** J Carnegie 71 72 75 71

LPGA EVIAN MASTERS: Leading final scores (GB/Ire unless stated; *amateur)
277 H Alfredsson (Swe) 70 69 73 65
281 M Hjorth (Swe) 69 70 72 70
282 A Nicholas 70 70 71 71; T Johnson 70 70 69 73
283 H Kobayashi (Japan) 70 70 73 70; H Dobson 71 70 72 70; S Waugh (Aus) 69 72 68 74
284 K Pearce (Aus) 73 71 73 67; L Philo (US) 73 71 69 71
285 C Matthew 70 71 73 71
286 D Barnard 68 72 73 73
287 L Fairclough 73 71 72 71; L Davies 68 73 74 72; C Dibnah (Aus) 73 68 73 72; E Knuth (Sp) 73 74 66 74; L Maritz (SA) 72 69 70 76
288 K Peppmeier (Aut) 73 71 73 71; F Pike (Aus) 73 69 74 72; C Koch (Swe) 67 74 70 77
289 J Leary (Aus) 68 74 76 71; C Nilsmark (Swe) 75 72 70 72; C Sorenstam (Swe) 76 73 68 72; A Gottmo (Swe) 76 70 70 73; P Meunier Lebouc (Fr) 73 68 73 75
290 S Mendiburu (Fr) 72 75 73 70; J Morley 74 71 74 71; A-M Knight (Aus) 69 74 74 73; S Croce (It) 70 74 73 73; S Gustafson (Swe) 72 76 69 73
291 *C Wei (China) 74 73 74 70; R Lautens (Switz) 75 69 76 71; W Dicks 74 74 72 71; T Fischer (Ger) 74 74 71 72
292 L Neumann (Swe) 70 76 74 72; H Wadsworth 76 72 72 72; S Dallongeville (Fr) 78 74 74 76
Also: 293 L Hackney 73 68 73 79. **294** K Marshall 77 70 74 73 **298** M Sutton 74 74 75 75. **299** J Forbes 74 75 77 73. D Reid 82 72 71 74 **300** S Prosser 81 77 70 72 **305** P Grice-Whittaker 76 73 76 80

LPGA TOUR EVENT (St Louis, Missouri): **Second-round leaders** (US unless stated).
138 D Andrews 72 66
140 A Sorenstam (Swe) 67 73
141 C Figg-Currier 71 70; C McMillan (GB) 68 73
142 S Hallock 74 68; L West 71 71; M Bosma 68 73
143 K Webb (Aus) 74 69; C McCurdy 71 72; J Gallagher-Smith 71 72; J Bartholomew 71 72; L Rinker-Graham 70 73
144 C Keggi 72 72; S Lowe (GB) 70 74
Also: 148 M McKay (GB) 73 75. P Wright (GB) 72 76 **Failed to qualify: 154** N Ash (GB) 78, 76

AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP (Muirfield): **Final: S Garcia** (Sp) bt C Williams (Craigiau) 7&6.

TENNIS

FRENCH OPEN (Paris) **Men: Final: C Moya** bt A Corretja 6-3 7-5 6-3
Doubles: Final: J Eltingh/P Haarhuis (Neth) bt M Knowles/D Nestor (Bah/Can) 6-3 3-6 6-3
Women: Final: A Sanchez-Vicario (Sp) bt M Seles (US) 7-6 0-6 6-2
Doubles: Final: M Hingis/J Novotna (Switz/Cz) bt L Davenport/N Zvereva (US/Bela) 6-1 7-6
Mixed Doubles: V Williams/J Gimelstob (US) bt S Williams/L Lobo (US/Arg) 6-4 6-4
POWDER BYRNE TROPHY (Surbiton). **Men: Semi-finals: G Pozzi** (It) bt C Wilkinson (GB) 6-1 6-2; **K Ullyett** (SA) bt A Thoms (Ger) 4-6 6-4 6-3. **Final: Pozzi** bt Ullyett 6-4 6-3
Women: Semi-finals: A Cocheteux (Fr) bt N Dechy (Fr) 6-0 6-4; **S Noorlander** (Neth) bt N Pratt (Aus) 3-6 6-1 7-6. **Final: Cocheteux** bt Noorlander 6-2 6-4.
STELLA ARTOIS CHAMPIONSHIPS (Queen's Club): **First-round draw** (prefix in brackets denotes seeding): (1) P Sampras (US) bye, qualifier v W Black (Zim); C Wilkinson (GB) v S Stolle (Aus); J Gimelstob (US) v (15) M Woodforde (Aus); (9) M Philippoussis (Aus) v J Burillo (Sp); qualifier v M Tillstrom (Swe); M Petchey (GB) v A O'Brien (US); (13) T Enqvist (Swe) bye; (3) P Rafter (Aus) bye; M Tebbutt (Aus) v S Draper (Aus); J van Lottum (Neth) v A Clement (Fr); A Pavel (Rom) v (12) B Steven (NZ); (10) T Woodbridge (Aus) v A Sa (Br); S Grosjean (Fr) v D van Scheppingen (Neth); D Vacek (Cz) v qualifier; (5) K Kucera (Slovak) bye; (6) C Pioline (Fr) bye; T Nydahl (Swe) v qualifier; G Stafford (SA) v L Paes (India); qualifier v (11) T Martin (US); (14) B Black (Zim) v G Canas (Arg); L Burgsmuller (Ger) v J-M Gambill (US); D Nestor (Can) v A Richardson (GB); (4) J Bjorkman (Swe) bye; (7) T Henman (GB) bye; S Sargsian (Arm) v M Lee (GB); M Sinner (Ger) v P Tramacchi (Aus); D Wheaton (US) v (10) G Ivanisevic (Cro); (16) J Stoltenberg (Aus) v qualifier; qualifier v S Lareau (Can); J Stark (US) v K Carlsen (Den); (2) G Rusedski (GB) bye

ATHLETICS

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL MEET: Men: 100m: 1 D Walker (Scot) 10.38sec, **2** A Cason (Int Sel) 10.43, **3** D Money (Eng) 10.52 **4** K Williams (Wales) 10.62; **5** J Stewart (N Eng) 10.73, **6** R Daly (Irl) 10.81, **7** I Craig (NI) 10.82 **8** T Afilaka (Int Sel) 10.85. **200m: 1** D Scott (Scot) 21.69 **2** C Malcolm (Wales) 21.69; **3** E White (Eng) 21.84 **4** K Braunskill (Int Sel) 22.21 **5** J Deacon (N Eng) 22.04 **6** D Hough (Ire) 22.23 **7** M Allen (NI) 22.46. **400m: 1** I Thomas (Wales) 46.59; **2** A Patrick (Eng) 47.54 **3** I McGurk (Scot) 49.35 **4** P McBurney (NI) 49.27, **5** J Schmidberger (Gsi) 43.23; **6** C Taylor (Int Sel) 49.73. **7** N Jennings (N Eng) 50.36. **8** T Comar (Ire) 50.14. **800m: 1** A Donaldson (Scot) 1:53.20, **2** E King (NI) 1:53.65 **3** B Scanlon (N Eng) 1:53.75; **4** J Lobo (Eng) 1:53.97 **5** M Shone (Wales) 1:53.91, **6** J Dupuy (Int Sel) 1:54.09, **7** R Aaron (Gsi) 1:53.56, **8** R Walters (Gsi) 2:02.16 **400m hurdles: 1** K Young (Int Sel) 52.10 **2** A Borsumato (N Eng) 52.51, **3** P Gray (Wales) 51.44, **4** G Jennings (Eng) 51.87, **5** A Bargh (Gsi) 55.02 **6** I Nelly (NI) 53.77 **7** B Middleton (Scot) 54.87, **8** C Meehan (Ire) 54.68 **110m hurdles: 1** P Grey (Wales) 13.21 **2** D Bradley (Eng) 14.16 **3** K Campbell (Scot) 14.25 **4** B Warmington (N Eng) 14.58 **5** C Donerty (NI) 15.18; **6** A Delaney (Ire) 15.22 **Triple jump: 1** J Edwards (Eng) 16.96m **2** J Golley (Gsi) 16.72 **3** L Achike (Int Sel) 16.40 **4** C Cole (Wales) 15.44 **5** S Richmond (Int Sel) 14.97 **6** C Fitch (N Eng) 14.62, **7** P Curran (NI) 14.33 **8** M Murray (Ire) 14.37 **Hammer: 1** D Smith (Eng) 70.85m; **2** C Howe (Gsi) 65.25, **3** S Whyte (Scot) 60.67 **4** S Holder (Wales) 59.47, **5** A Swain (N Eng) 57.42, **6** D Nicoll (NI) 56.64, **7** M Grace (Ire) 55.72 **Javelin: 1** S Backley (Eng) 87.?? **2** M Hill (N Eng) 81.54, **3** M Pisterson (Gsi) 78.61 **4** N Nieland (Gsi) 75.?? **5** D Brooke (Int Sel) 71.69, **6** S Laughton (Wales) 62.95, **7** S Armstrong (Scot) 53.66 **8** D Hanna (NI) 56.49, **9** M Allen (Ire) 54.59. **Women: 100m: 1** J Maduaka (Gsi) 11.57sec **2** M Prince (Int Sel) 11.71, **3** C Murphy (Wales) 11.89 **4** G Rostok (Scot) 11.90 **5** S Williams (Eng), E Maher (Ire) 12.04, **7** C Haggarth (N Eng) 12.0?, **8** Z Arnold (NI) 13.00 **200m: 1** R White (N Eng) 24.35, **2** C Murphy (Wales) 24.42 **3** A Dunn (Int Sel) 24.90, **4** E Ruddock (Eng) 24.86; **5** A McGillivray (Scot) 25.24, **6** C Sheehy (Ire) 25.33, **7** G Pestey (Gsi) 25.64; **8** Z Arnold (NI) 26.57 **400m: 1** F Yusuf (Int Sel) 54.22; **2** D Higgins (Wales) 55.16 **3** L Hanson (Eng) 55.72 **4** S Llewellyn (NI) 56.32, **5** J McKenna (Ire) 57.75; **6** C Easton (Scot) 57.76, **7** J Meadows (N Eng) 57.80 **800m: 1** A Crake (NI) 2:07.62, **2** E Davies (Wales) 2:09.61, **3** M Prendervile (Ire) 2:10.27, **4** M Faherty (N Eng) 2:10.85, **5** H Parkinson (Scot) 2:12.21, **6** V Sterne (Eng) 2:12.78 **100m hurdles: 1** A Thorp (Eng) 13.43, **2** T Lawson (Int Sel) 13.44; **3** R King (Wales) 13.63 **4** P Richards (Scot) 14.24. **5** D Freeman (Gsi) 14.25 **6** D O'Rourke (Ire) 14.48; **7** L Fairs (N Eng) 14.55 **400m hurdles 1** V Jamison (NI) 56.92; **2** A Layzell (Wales) 57.37; **3** K Maddox (Eng) 57.75; **4** N Sutton (N Eng) 58.97; **5** S Dudgeon (Scot) 1:02.85 **6** F Norwood (Ire) 1:03.63. **High jump: 1** J Jennings (Eng) 1.88m. **2** G Black (Scot) 1.75. **3** J Crane (Wales) 1.75 **4** J Payne (N Eng) 1.70; **5** W Fey (NI) 1.70. **6** O Donoghue (Ire) 1.65 **Pole vault: 1** J Whitlock (Eng) 4.10m; **2** L Stanton (N Eng) 3.70. **3** R Clarke (Wales) 3.70; **4** A Dauchars (Scot) 2.70; **5** D McCarthy (Ire) 2.70; **6** E Murphy (NI) 2.20. **Hammer: 1** L Spurlos (Eng) 57.90m **2** D Holden (Int Sel) 55.27; **3** S Moore (Wales) 55.2?; **4** C Garden (Scot) 51.78, **5** S Roberts (N Eng) 46.72, **6** A Jenkins (Gsi) 42.19. **Team positions: 1** England 108pts, **2** Wales 98, **3** Scotland 83, **4** North of England 79; **5** International Select 67; **6** Northern Ireland 52; **7** Ireland 38

AUSTRALIAN RULES

AFL: Round 11: Melbourne 19.9 (117) Hawthorn 10.10 (70), Geelong 12.8 (80) Carlton 9.9 (63), West Coast 8.9 (57) Port Adelaide 7.13 (55), Fremantle Dockers 17.19 (121) Brisbane Lions 7.8 (50), Western Bulldogs 24.11 (155) Adelaide Crows 13.10 (88).

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: St Louis 2 San Francisco 3 St Louis 4 San Francisco 5 (14inns)
INTERLEAGUE: Chicago Cubs 6 Chicago WS 5 (12inns), Boston 2 NY Mets 9, Cincinnati 2 Cleveland 1; Pittsburgh 6 Minnesota 1, Tampa Bay 2 Montreal 5; Toronto 7 Philadelphia 8, Baltimore 3 Atlanta 2; NY Yankees 5 Florida 1; Houston 0 Kansas City 3; Milwaukee 7 Detroit 3, Texas 8 San Diego 7; Anaheim 5 Colorado 0; Seattle 4 Los Angeles 0; Oakland 2 Arizona 1 (11inns); Baltimore 5 Atlanta 10; Boston 0 NY Mets 1; Chicago Cubs 7 Chicago WS 6; NY Yankees 4 Florida 2; Oakland 10 Arizona 5, Seattle 6 Los Angeles 10; Toronto 6 Philadelphia 10, Tampa Bay 5 Montreal 7; Cincinnati 1 Cleveland 10, Pittsburgh 4 Minnesota 3 (12inns); Houston 6 Kansas City 0, Milwaukee 3 Detroit 9; Texas 3 San Diego 0; Anaheim 2 Colorado 1.

BASKETBALL

NBA: Finals: Utah 88 Chicago 93 (series level at 1–1)
WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP (Berlin) **Semi-finals:** Russia 82 Australia 76, United States 93 Brazil 79 **Play-off places 3–4:** Australia 72 Brazil 67. **5–6:** Spain 70 Lithuania 59 **7–8:** Cuba 83 Slovakia 81 (aet)

BOXING

PROFESSIONAL BILL (Liverpool) **WBO intercontinental super-featherweight title: Gary Thornhill** (Liverpool) bt Dean Pithie (London) ko 8.

CYCLING

GIRO D'ITALIA: Stage 21 (34km time-trial; Mendrisio to Lugano) **1** S Gontchar (Ukr) Cantina Tollo 39min 54sec; **2** M Podenzana (It) at 29sec; **3** M Pantani (It) 30; **4** M Volo (It) 31, **5** P Tonkov (Rus) 35, **6** M Serpellini (It) 1.01, **7** O Camenzind (Switz) 1 14, **8** P Savoldelli (It) 1.15; **9** A Zulle (Switz) 1.32; **10** C–M Moller (Den) 1 40 **Stage 22** (Lugano, Switz to Milan: 167km): **1** G Matteo Fagnini (It) Saeco 4hr 40min 12sec; **2** M Strazzer (It) Cantina Tollo, **3** Z Spruch (Pol) Mapei; **4** J Luis Rubiera (Sp) Kelme; **5** M Piccoli (It) Brescialat; **6** M Gualdi (It) Polti; **7** N Loda (It) Ballan; **8** L Mazzanti (It) Cantina Tollo, **9** M Hvastija (Sloven) Cantina Tollo; **10** M Serpellini (It) Brescialat all same time **Final overall standings: 1** Pantani 98hr 48min 32sec; **2** Tonkov 1min 33sec; **3** G Guerini (It) Polti 6.51, **4** Camenzind at 12 16, **5** D Clavero (Sp) Vitalicio 18.04; **6** G Faresin (It) Mapei 18.31 **7** P Bettini (It) Asics 21 03; **8** D De Paoli (It) Ros Mary 21.35; **9** Savoldelli 25 54; **10** Gontchar 25.58. **11** Podenzana 28.22, **12** C Gonzales (Col) Kelme 29 24, **13** Luis Rubiera 31.25; **14** A Zuelle (Switz) Festina at 33 26, **15** A Noe (It) Asics 34.29; **16** L Piepoli (It) Saeco 35.56, **17** Moller 39.22; **18** P Lanfranchi (It) Mapei 40.06; **19** R Sgambelluri (It) Brescialat 40.33; **20** Velo 40.53.
DAUPHINE LIBERE: Prologue (Villeurbanne, Fr; 5km): **1** C Boardman (GB) GAN 6min 40.23sec. **2** C Moreau (Fr) Festina same time, **3** L Jalabert (Fr) Once at 3sec; **4** D Baranowski (Pol) US Postal st; **5** P Jonker (Neth) Rabobank 4; **6** N Jalabert (Fr) Cofidis 6, **7** R Sorensen (Neth) Rabobank 6; **8** T Bourguignon (Fr) Big Mat 9, **9** C Capelle (Fr) Cofidis st; **10** R Verbrugghe (Bel) Lotto 10.
CLASSIC OF THE ALPS (Chambery to Aix-les-Bains): **Leading placings: 1** L Jalabert (Fr) Once 4hr 57min 51sec; **2** F Casagrande (It) Cofidis same time; **3** B Salmon (Fr) Casino st.
RTTC NATIONAL 25-MILE CHAMPIONSHIP (Ranby, Notts): **1** R Hayles (Team Brite) 49min 1sec (course record). **2** C Newton (Team Brite) 49 45; **3** S Dangerfield (Fastrack RT) 49 47; **4** M Illingworth (Team Brite) 50.03; **5** J Clay (Team Brite) 50.16; **6** S Yates (Team Clean) 50.45. **Team:** Team Brite 2:28 49 (British record).

ICE HOCKEY

NHL PLAY-OFFS: Western Conf: Detroit 2 Dallas 0 (Detroit win series 4–2).

MOTORCYCLING

ISLE OF MAN TT: Formula One (4 laps, 150.92 miles). **1** I Simpson (Honda); **2** M Rutter (Honda), **3** J Courtney (Honda), **4** S Beck (Kawasaki); **5** J Griffiths (Honda); **6** D Morris (Chrysalis).

MOTOR RACING

LE MANS 24 HOUR RACE: Leading final standings: 1 A McNish/L Aiello/S Ortelli (GB/Fr/Fr) Porsche GT1 352 laps; **2** J Mueller/U Alzen/B Wollek (Ger/Ger/Fr) Porsche GT1 98 at 1 lap, **3** K Hoshino/A Suzuki/M Kageyama (Japan) Nissan R390 GT1 4, **4** S O'Rourke/T Sugden/B Auberlen (GB/GB/US) McLaren F1 GTR 8; **5** J Nielsen/F Lagorce/M Krumm (Den/Fr/Ger) Nissan R390 GT1 9; **6** E Comas/J Lammers/A Montermini (Fr/Neth/It) Nissan R390 GT1 9; **7** D Brabham/A Wallace/J Davies (Aus/GB/GB) Panoz GT R1 16, **8** W Taylor/E Van De Poele/F Velez (Can/Bel/Sp) Ferrari 333 SP 19; **9** U Katayama/T Suzuki/K Tsuchiya (Japan) Toyota GT One 25; **10** T Kurosawa/S Motoyama/M Kageyama (Japan) Nissan R390 GT1 32 laps.

MOTOR SPORT

ACROPOLIS RALLY: First stage: 1 R Burns/R Reid (GB) Mitsubishi Carisma 1hr 18min 28.2sec, **2** C McRae/N Grist (GB) Subaru Impreza WRC at 2.4sec; **3** D Auriol/D Giraudet (Fr) Toyota Corolla WRC 11 7; **4** P Liatti/F Pons (It) Subaru Impreza WRC 19 3; **5** J Kankkunen/J Repo (Fin) Ford Escort WRC 26.2; **6** F Loix/S Smeets (Bel) Toyota Corolla WRC 31.6, **7** C Sainz/L Moya (Sp) Toyota Corolla WRC 48.5; **8** U Nittel/T Thorner (Ger/Swe) Mitsubishi Carisma GT 55 9.

SQUASH

SEATTLE GRAND PRIX: Women: Quarter-finals: S Fitz-Gerald (Aus) bt S Horner (Eng) 9–3, 9–6, 9–4; **L Joyce** (NZ) bt S Schone (Ger) 10–8, 9–2, 9–5; **C Owens** (Aus) bt F Geaves (Eng) 9–4, 9–2, 9–4; **C Jackman** (Eng) bt L Charman (Eng) 9–3, 9–1, 9–0. **Semi-finals: Fitz-Gerald** bt Joyce 9–0 9–2 9–1; **Jackman** bt Owens 9–3 9–6 9–6.

Sport in brief

Cricket

The Sri Lanka spin bowlers Niroshan Bandaratilake, with five for 36 to add to his four first-innings wickets, and Muttiah Muralitharan, with three for 24, took the home side to victory by an innings and 16 runs in the second Test in Galle yesterday to square the series with New Zealand at 1–1. The left-armer Bandaratilake removed Chris Cairns with the third ball of the day as the last five New Zealand wickets fell in 43 minutes for only 20 runs. The third and final Test begins in Colombo on Wednesday.

Motor Sport

When the Finn Tommi Makinen retired with electrical trouble after the first stage it was assumed that Colin McRae would run away with the Acropolis Rally but it was his fellow Briton and the No. 2 Mitsubishi driver Richard Burns who took a narrow but convincing lead in the first leg yesterday, *writes David Williams*. Burns profited when McRae overshot a junction and spun his Subaru on the fourth of seven stages; he forged into a clear lead when the unlucky Belgian Bruno Thiry retired his Ford with a blown engine.

Basketball

Michael Jordan said he used "a little bit of Zen Buddhism" to stay calm and score 37 points for the Chicago Bulls in game two of the best-of-seven National Basketball Association finals series with a 93–88 victory over the Utah Jazz. "I kind of forced myself to say, 'hey, I'm going to enjoy this moment, it may not happen again'," said Jordan, who along with the coach Phil Jackson and his fellow forward Scottie Pippen is tipped to leave the five-time champions at the end of the season. With the series at 1–1, game three was to be played in Chicago overnight.

Ice Hockey

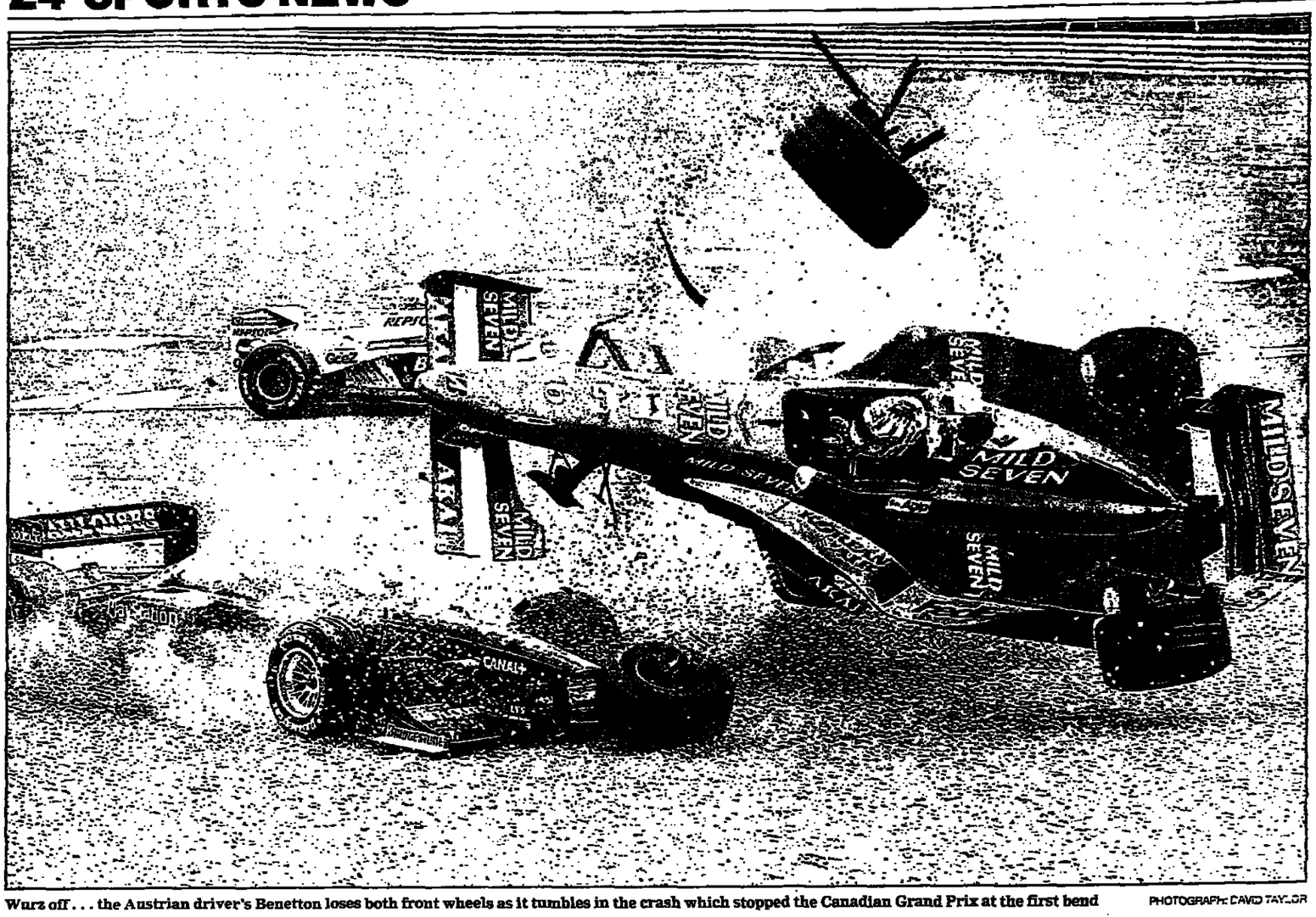
Goals by Larry Murphy and Sergei Federov allied to a 26-save shut-out from Chris Osgood ensured Detroit Red Wings, the defending champions, would enter their third Stanley Cup final in four after beating Dallas 2–0 to clinch the semi-final series, *writes Vic Batchelder*. The best-of-seven game series against the Washington Capitals begins tomorrow.

Sailing

The 60-footers Musto Performance Partners and Victorian Group were battling for the the lead just before the Eddystone Lighthouse as the field of 41 in the Round Britain and Ireland two-handed race fought south-westerly winds gusting to 22 knots on the 230-mile first leg from Plymouth to Cork, *writes Bob Fisher*. Chris Law won the Hoya Royal Lymington Cup for the second successive year, beating the French former world champion Bertrand Pace 4–0 in the final.

American Football

Ralf Kleinmann kicked a 46-yard field goal in the 15th minute of overtime to give the visiting Frankfurt Galaxy a 20–17 win over the Rhein Fire and ensure that next week's World Bowl final in Frankfurt will be a German derby, *writes Mike Carlson*. After Rhein took a 17–7 lead before a Düsseldorf record crowd of 41,215, Kleinmann kicked a 37-yard field goal to send the game into overtime.



Wurz off . . . the Austrian driver's Benetton loses both front wheels as it tumbles in the crash which stopped the Canadian Grand Prix at the first bend PHOTOGRAPH: DAVID TAYLOR

Schumacher survives mayhem

Alan Henry in Montreal sees the German prevail as the McLarens drop out of an accident-torn race

DAVID Coulthard's hopes of closing the championship gap on his McLaren team-mate Mika Hakkinen took another dent in a dramatic Canadian Grand Prix here yesterday as both the Mercedes-engined cars retired with rare mechanical trouble, fast-tracking Michael Schumacher to his second victory of the season.

The Ferrari driver, who beat Giancarlo Fisichella's Benetton after a spirited showing by the young Italian, now splits the McLaren drivers in the standings. The season's seventh race for much of its course was a destruction derby but, when the smoke cleared, Schumacher had closed to within 12 points of Hakkinen and five ahead of the Scot.

The race began on a nerve-jangling note after Ralf Schumacher stalled his Jordan-Honda from sixth place on the grid. Cars dodged in all directions to avoid the stationary machine, which meant the second half of the grid was well scrambled as it funnelled into the tight left-hander after the pits.

Alexander Wurz's Benetton attempted to outbrake Jean Alesi's Sauber going into this turn but clipped the front of the Swiss car as Alesi moved over to make room for Heinz-Harald Frentzen's Williams to take the racing line through.

In a flash Wurz found himself launched into a spectacular series of somersaults, his car happily landing on its wheels in the gravel trap on the outside of the corner. Alesi, his Sauber team-mate Johnny Herbert and the Prost of Jarno Trulli were also all involved and red flags were waved.

As less than two laps had been run, the grid lined up again to compete over the full 69-lap distance. For the restart Alesi took the spare Sauber, Wurz the spare Benetton and Trulli the spare Prost. Herbert's Sauber was returned to the team garage, repaired and duly joined the race from the pit lane.

But it was clearly not Alesi's day. At the restart Ralf Schumacher barged past him going into the first corner, spinning in the middle of the pack and again scattering cars in all directions. This ended with Trulli's spare Prost perched over the back of Alesi's Sauber, while Hakkinen suddenly slowed before limping round to retire at the end of the first lap with gearbox trouble. Out came the safety car and the field formed a queue.

When the pack was finally unleashed at the end of lap five, Coulthard and Schumacher began pulling relentlessly away from the field, Fisichella holding third place ahead of the Williams of Jacques Villeneuve and Frentzen.

Coulthard showed real grit to stabilise his lead over the pursuing Ferrari but that vanished when the safety car came out for a second time between laps 14 and 17 after the Arrows driver Pedro Diniz spun off and then resumed, scattering clods of earth and grass all round the circuit.

On lap 19 Coulthard suddenly slowed and the second McLaren trailed gently round to the pits to retire with an engine problem, allowing Schumacher through into the lead.

Amazingly, the safety car returned on lap 21 while debris from Mika Salo's crashed Arrows was cleared up, and Schumacher used the lull to make his first refuelling stop.

What happened next was pure farce, or worse, as Schumacher emerged to find Frentzen's Williams drawing level on the outside racing line. The Ferrari driver moved out and pushed Frentzen off, an astonishing display of reckless driving.

This left Fisichella's Benetton leading from Villeneuve who lunged across the gravel trap which had claimed Frentzen. He managed to get back on the track only to be hit from behind by Esteban Tuero's Minardi.

Full results from Montreal

1	**Michael Schumacher** (Germany) Ferrari		1:[illegible]
2	**Giancarlo Fisichella** (Italy) Benetton		14.892 sec behind
3	**Eddie Irvine** (GB) Ferrari		+[illegible]
4	**Alexander Wurz** (Austria) Benetton		+1:21.512
5	**Rubens Barrichello** (Brazil) Stewart		1 lap
6	**Jan Magnussen** (Denmark) Stewart		1 lap

Also classified

7 Shinji Nakano	Japan	Minardi 1 lap
8 Ricardo Rosset	Brazil	Tyrrell 1 lap
9 Pedro Diniz	Brazil	Arrows 2 laps
10 Jacques Villeneuve	Canada	Williams 6 laps

Fastest lap Schumacher 1:19.379 (125.313mph)

Not classified

11 Esteban Tuero	Argentina	Minardi 69 laps
12 Damon Hill	GB	Jordan 42 laps
13 Olivier Panis	France	Prost 39 laps
14 Heinz-Harald Frentzen	Germany	Williams 39 laps
15 David Coulthard	GB	McLaren 19 laps
16 Johnny Herbert	GB	Sauber 18 laps
17 Mika Salo	Finland	Arrows 16 laps
18 Mika Hakkinen	Finland	McLaren 6 laps
19 Ralf Schumacher	Germany	Jordan 0 laps
20 Jean Alesi	France	Sauber 0 laps
21 Jarno Trulli	Italy	Prost 0 laps
22 Tormoosuke Takagi	Japan	Tyrrell 0 laps

Championships: Drivers'

After seven rounds	Points
1 Hakkinen	46
2 M Schumacher	34
3 Coulthard	29
4 Irvine	19
5 Fisichella	13
6 Wurz	12
7 Frentzen, Villeneuve	8
8 Barrichello	4
9 Alesi, Salo	3
10 Magnussen, Herbert, Diniz	1

Constructors'

	Points
1 McLaren	75
2 Ferrari	52
3 Benetton	26
4 Williams	18
5 Stewart	5
6 Sauber, Arrows	4

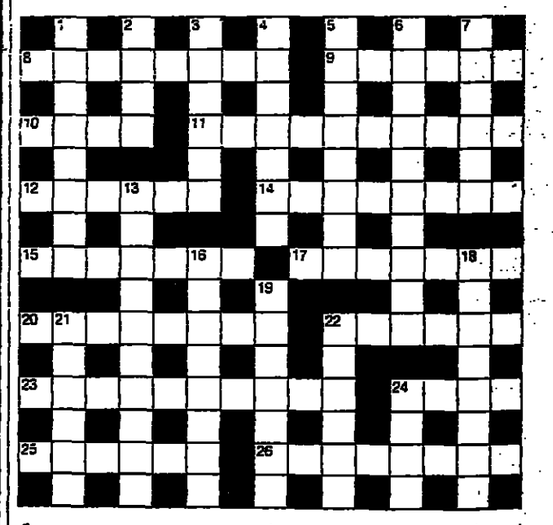
online

Every Thursday in the

The Guardian INTERNATIONAL

Guardian Crossword No 21,295

Set by Rufus



Across

8 General resemblance to Humpty Dumpty? (3-5)
9 He cometh in play or cinema production (6)
10 Allowing admission to ring enclosure (4)
11 Lacking money for cake (10)
12 It is hard-skinned and *unfeeling, we hear* (6)
14 Fool's speech in production of Lear (8)
15 Studs' list put on board (7)
17 New rise to be paid now? Remains to be seen (7)
20 It secures protection around the neck when carp's fin is damaged (5-3)
22 Quiet during day without a lot of noise (6)
23 Pedestrian crossing (10)
24 Crack shot (4)
25 Rum loo embellished with gilt decoration (6)
26 Lawyers reason it out (8)

Down

1 One always remembers the penal settlement (8)
2 Club clique, we are told (4)
3 Bags of money (6)
4 Meets Sid and Joan when out (7)
5 It's put out in the dance interval (8)
6 Desire nice sort of divorce (6,4)
7 Bill is to raise and set sail for French port (6)
13 Alibi tenor used to get release (10)
16 Store up memoir in novel form (8)
18 Agitated prude and the kind of statue that agitates him (8)
19 Annoyed when out of pain-killer (7)
21 So rich a blend of voices (6)
22 Ways to get round little children's demands (6)
24 Father is up and about (4)

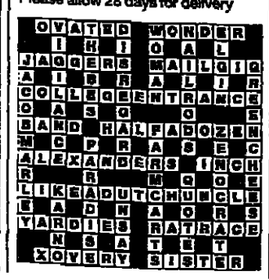
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This week's winners of a Collins English Dictionary are M. Boshier of Sheffield, Mrs. D. Edwards of Hornchurch, Essex, I. S. Hutchings of Romford, Essex, John Power of Northwich, Cheshire, and Christine Little of Harrogate, West Yorkshire.

Please allow 28 days for delivery

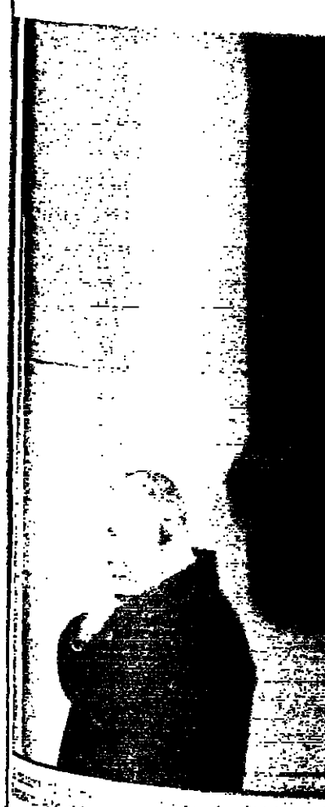
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